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Community Pride Reporter

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Community Pride Reporter

FREE

The newspaper for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of Maine and New Hampshire.

VOL. 2, Number 10

APRIL - MAY, 1995



Carolyn Cosby's call for "civil debate" is subject to question

Carolyn Cosby attempts to retain control of her "movement"

by Bruce Balboni

In a March 30, 1995 press release, Carolyn Cosby, leader of Concerned Maine Families (CMF), laid out the conditions of involvement that other organizations will have to meet if they want to publicly support "the CMF referendum." Cosby is responding to a call by the Christian Civic League of Maine for a broad-based coalition of groups to work for state acceptance of the anti-equal rights, CMF-sponsored referendum.

"Have a great day,
Punch out a gay!"

-- Jonathan Malmude
CMF Board of Advisors
Professor, St. Joseph's College

Instead of seeing help in this call, Cosby sees a power struggle. She wants to retain control of these efforts. Paul Volle kicked her out of the Christian Coalition because of her bullying ways and now that the anti-equal rights amendment may go to the voters Cosby is desperately trying to run the show. She does so however as the puppet of Bruce Fein, Virginia lawyer and Tony Marco, Colorado's radical Christian leader.

In correspondence to the Christian Civic League, Cosby has insisted that the efforts to deny equal rights to homosexuals be led by her, and her alone. In a letter dated 12/13/94 Cosby writes, "As I discussed with Mike (Mike Heath, Executive Director of the Christian Civic League) earlier today, CCL's participation to an extent that

See CONTROL, page 5

Power struggle emerges amongst Maine's radical right groups

Volle calls Cosby "belligerent" and says anti-equal rights referendum is unconstitutional

by Bruce Balboni, Managing Editor

Following are two interviews, one with Paul Volle, leader of the Christian Coalition in Maine and the other with Mike Heath, Executive Director of the Christian Civic League (CCL) of Maine. Carolyn Cosby, leader of Concerned Maine Families (CMF) did not respond to the Community Pride Reporter's (CPR) efforts to obtain comment from her.

CPR: What degree of involvement does your organization (Christian Coalition) have with Concerned Maine Families (CMF), its leader, Carolyn Cosby, and their referendum against equal rights?

VOLLE: None whatsoever.

CPR: Why is that?

VOLLE: Well, the issue at hand here is a constitutional issue. Our orga-

nization believes that the referendum is the wrong way to go because the referendum, in our opinion, will be unconstitutional because it's trying to limit the state constitution by statutory action. In other words, what appears to be happening from the referendum is that the referendum is trying to put a muzzle on the state legislature from doing its job, that it's constitutionally mandated to do. No matter how you feel about an issue... the end doesn't justify the means.

CPR: Aside from Cosby's approach do you agree with her purpose?

VOLLE: Well, I agree that there should not be special rights for a number of what are called 'minority groups.' I think everybody is equal under the law. There's so many things that we could say need special attention... I'm not so sure that we need special rights for fe-

See POWER STRUGGLE, page 6



Paul Volle says he cannot work with Carolyn Cosby. She's too belligerent.

Christian Civic League abandons historic support of Maine's Hate Crimes Act Move seen as attempt to appease Carolyn Cosby

by Bruce Balboni

"Given what I have learned, and in light of your efforts to strengthen 'hate crimes' statutes this session, I am going to recommend that the League modify its position on 'hate crimes.' I am going to recommend to our board that the League 1) request that the state remove 'sexual orientation' from the Maine Civil Rights Act... — from a letter to Steve Wessler, Assistant Attorney General of Maine, written by Mike Heath, Executive Director of the Christian Civic League (CCL) of Maine, dated April 7, 1995.

With that statement Heath acceded to a demand made of him by Carolyn Cosby, leader of Concerned Maine Families (CMF) in a letter she wrote to him 12/13/94. She wrote to Heath, "Under Jack Wyman's leadership, CCL is still on public record as supporting the addition of the sexual orientation clause in the Hate Crimes Act. It will be absolutely necessary for you to prepare a public statement refuting that."

Heath has now done that. In the accompanying interview Heath attempted to maintain the independence of his organization, but his cave-in to Cosby tells another story.

Heath gives his reasons for this abandonment in his letter to Wessler in what can only be described as impenetrable logic. Heath writes, "With respect to your rationale for including sexual orientation in the civil rights act, I have these thoughts. This act was designed to place the power and author

See Civic League, page 5



Photo by Studio 101, Everett Horr

Nan Goldin, New York photographer, presents check to the Editors of CPR. Nan did a slide/lecture at the Maine College of Art, April 13. Nan donated her entire honorarium to support our work. See Artist Profile, page 17.



Suzanne Westenhoefer Speaks Out

by Skip Brushaber

I recently spoke on the phone with comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer while she was fogged in at the Detroit airport. Westenhoefer is a nationally known lesbian stand-up comic who has appeared on HBO, A & E, Geraldo, Joan Rivers, The Comedy Channel, etc. She will be appearing at Jonathan's in Ogunquit on May 12, 1995.

See SUZANNE SPEAKS, page 24

Maine Won't Discriminate

Chapter contacts & meeting times

Aroostook County:
PO Box 853
Caribou, ME 04736
Dick Harrison-207/896-5726

Bangor:
PO Box 963
Bangor, ME 04402
Jim Martin-207/990-3420
Meetings: 1st Sunday, 4-6 PM
359 Main St, Bangor

Biddeford:
12 Fortune Rocks Rd.
Biddeford, ME 04005
Barry Horn-207/286-3718
Meeting: April 25, 6:30 PM
UNE-Marcil Hall, Rm 216

Brunswick/Bath:
PO Box 245
Brunswick, ME 04011
Punnie Edgerton-207/729-4930
Tina Phillips-207/729-4930

Capitol Area:
Maple Hill Farms
RR #1, Box 1175
Hallowell, ME 04347
Scott Cowger-207/622-2708
Cheryl Ring-207/26-0818
Meetings: 6:30 PM, Apr. 26,
May 10 & 25, at Maple Hill

Hancock County:
PO Box 373
Ellsworth, ME 04605
Peter Rees-207/667-2358
Ruth Blackburn-207/276-0503
Meetings: 3rd Sunday, 4:00 PM
UU Church, Bucksport Rd.

Kennebunk: Brand New!
Interim Contact:
Kate Perkins-207/985-2784
Meeting: First Parish Church
Main St., Kennebunk
May 1 at 7:00 PM

Lewiston:
2 Canal Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
Roland Blais-207/784-2251

Lincoln County (Wiscasset):
Clarks Cove Road
Walpole, ME 04573
Tom Gould-207/563-2269

Midcoast:
PO Box 622
Rockland, ME 04841
Dorothy Meriweather-
207/594-7873

Portland:
PO Box 8124
Portland, ME 04104
Steve Addario/Jessica Maurer
207/761-1788
Meetings: 6:30 PM-
Every other Monday
St. Luke's Cathedral, 143 State St.
April 24, May 8, May 22

Ogunquit:
PO Box 2250
Ogunquit, ME 03907
John Cavaretta-207/646-2122

Southwest:
Box 6542, RR #2
Hiram, ME 04041
Janice Campbell-207/625-3689

Waldo County:
7 Congress Street
Belfast, ME 04915
Cary Leah MacLeod
207/338-4194

Washington County:
RR #1, Box 177
Millbridge, ME 04658
Betty Deniston-207/546-2007
Tom-207/546-7503

Waterville/Oakland:
RR #3, Box 2299
Oakland, ME 04963
Diane Campbell-207/465-7574

Western Maine:
62 High Street
Farmington, ME 04938
Gay/Straight Peoples' Alliance
207/778-7380

Campaign Manager: Amy Pritchard, 1-800-761-1788
P O Box 11061, Portland Maine 04104

Maine Won't Discriminate: Chapter Update

by Malcolm Smith, Staff Reporter

With the anti-gay/anti-civil rights referendum question less than seven months away, the number of chapters of Maine Won't Discriminate has grown to 17. Chapters that organized early, such as Hancock County, Bangor and Portland, are well on their way, while the more recently formed chapters are diligently working to get up to speed. I recently spoke with chapter contact persons to get a feel for where each chapter is and what their needs are. Not surprisingly, all chapters expressed a need for volunteers and funds.

Jeanine Crockett of Bangor is looking for either low-cost or donated office space. She said the chapter has formed a religion committee for outreach to the religious community.

In Biddeford, chapter contact, Barry Horn says he is looking forward to coalition building in his area, having new members join and getting to work.

Punnie Edgerton of the Brunswick/Bath chapter credits the politically active people of the area for the current success of the chapter. With over 400 members, Edgerton says, "I'm really thrilled with the turnout." Many chapter members were active in nuclear and other referendums. "They just jump right in — it's fabulous," she said. Profitable house party gatherings have already been hosted.

"I think our chapter is doing splendid," Cheryl Ring said of the Capitol Area MWD chapter. Ring is the co-facilitator. There is much work to be done, according to Ring, but the volunteers have been quick to share in the work. She urged people who wished not to get physically involved to at least pull out their checkbooks.

Hancock County contact, Peter Rees responded "Boomingly" of the progress of that chapter's work. Membership is around 150 and new members are joining all the time. House parties are set to begin soon with additional fund raising plans being pursued. Rees credits a good mix of volunteers for creating the feeling of a safe space at meetings where both gay and straight are able to communicate openly. He says this is liberating for all members.

Tom Gould of the Lincoln County chapter urges people to get involved in this relatively new chapter. Current members are optimistic about the future of this chapter.

Mid-Coast chapter contact, Dorothy Meriweather, reports a mailing list

of 400 with the groups focus on outreach and fund raising at this time.

The Ogunquit chapter faces a challenge with the media of its coverage area. According to organizer John Cavaretta, because people get their information from so many places, there is not one clear place to advertise. In addition, some residents are seasonal, with many still out of state. He said current members are getting to know each other and are working to create an educational network to get the group's message out to the community.

Janice Campbell of the Southwestern Maine chapter reports success working with former/current peace-movement members, as her group of 20-25 continues to grow. She plans to approach local businesses, asking them to display symbols of support.

Carey Leah MacLeod of the Waldo County chapter welcomes new volunteers to those already working for the Belfast-based chapter. She discussed fund raising ideas, such as theater parties and dances, along with doing door-to-door campaigning and educational pieces. The people of the Belfast area are fair, said MacLeod, but the level of misinformation is high. She indicated that the decision not to introduce an equal rights bill this session may have fueled volunteers.

Betty Deniston says the Washington County chapter is trying to organize enough meetings to bridge the spread out geographical area in their county. This is a problem for many of the MWD chapters. Meetings are attended by both gay and straight who are all aware of the far-reaching effects of this referendum. "Our members are growing by leaps and bounds," said Deniston.

When I spoke to Diane Campbell of the Waterville/Oakland chapter, she told me that her group is still organizing. They have held one fund raiser, and have plans for house parties. The thrust of this groups work will be community coalition building, talking to clergy, the chamber of commerce and civic leaders. "There's a real ground-swell starting to happen," said Campbell.

Amy Pritchard, Campaign Manager of Maine Won't Discriminate, said that the work of the State Headquarters is setting up physical space and working with the individual chapters. She summed up the feelings of many of the chapters that the group has come together and can now get on with its work.

Re-elect

JOHN McDONOUGH

Portland City Council

"John McDonough is committed to defending the rights of gay and lesbian citizens of Portland and Maine. His experience and commitment will serve all of us well." — Peter O'Donnell

-- A voice for the city -- A voice for you !!

Paid for by Citizens to Elect John McDonough, Charles Lander, Jr., Treasurer
14 Coach Lane, Portland, ME 04102



Scott Erik RICHARD

"Young people need a voice in their schools. Scott Erik Richard will stand up for the rights of students."

--Alan Stearns

VOTE -- May 2nd

Paid for by Scott Erik Richard for School Committee, 45 Deering Street, Portland, Maine, 04101

Portland City Council elections — May 2

by Bruce Balboni

There are seven candidates for two, at-large City Council seats in this year's municipal elections. They are Dan Foster, John McDonough, Tony Holt, Peter Rickett, Bruce Webber, Keri Lord and Paula Agopian. McDonough and Lord are the incumbents, both are on the Public Safety Committee.

There are three candidates for the one seat up for grabs in District 3 (USM area). They are Nan Sawyer, Tom Kane and Patricia Bernard. Though these elections are supposed to be non-partisan, every candidate indicated their party affiliation to CPR during wide-ranging interviews. They're all Democrats, except Peter Rickett who is a registered Republican, and Bruce Webber who is a Green.

All the candidates indicated that they supported Portland's equal rights ordinance which bans discrimination in Portland in housing, credit, employment and public accommodation. However, one of the candidates expressed lukewarm support and another said that she voted against the ordinance when it went to referendum. Peter Rickett said he supported the ordinance but thought it was unfortunate that we had to have it.

In reference to Concerned Maine Families' (CMF) anti-equal rights referendum Rickett said, "I can see both sides of the issue. Fundamentally, I'm



Tom Kane

against making lists. Unfortunately, we started making them years ago and once you start them it's very hard to get away from them. I'd rather just have a system that said we're not going to tolerate discrimination anywhere in any form, but that doesn't seem to be a legal reality."

I suggested to Rickett that there seemed to be a contradiction between his statement supporting Portland's equal rights ordinance and his statement that he saw the point for CMF's referendum. I told him that if the referendum passes the ordinance is gone.

Rickett replied, "That's why I can see their point in what they're doing with the referendum, but at this point in time

I do not back it. I feel that there is a need for the laws that are on the books. I don't like that they are there. It's unfortunate that there are lists because lists keep going, which is not a good way to run a country or to run a city." Despite these beliefs, Rickett said he would support the passage of a state-wide equal rights law in the legislature.

Patricia Bernard, who is running against Nan Sawyer and Tom Kane in District 3 said, "I didn't vote for the ordinance when it went to a vote because in your public arguments you didn't go beyond proving that you had problems being victimized. I don't care that it passed, but our judicial system is so weird that I fear they'll take that ordinance and use it to sanction abuse against rape victims and children, that's my only problem with it."

I asked her if she supported CMF's referendum to deny equal rights to gays and lesbians. She replied, "I'm neutral on it. I'm not homophobic, but I fear it will fractionize (sic) the people. I wish you guys had just stood up and said, 'We will not be a victim and the laws are made for everybody,' and I would feel better if you had gone that way instead of a special gay rights referendum."

Somewhat surprised, I informed her that this 'special gay rights referendum' was put forth by Concerned Maine Families (CMF) not by gays and lesbi-

ans. She said, "I realize that." Asked if she supported a state-wide equal rights law, she said, "I don't feel there should be any discrimination on sexual preference, but I don't get why you need this."

All the candidates agree parking, particularly on the peninsula, is a problem. Bruce Webber suggested encouraging people to use bicycles. He said he wanted to improve public transportation and make it more appealing by building bus shelters. He said the shelters could be paid for by selling advertising in them and went on to urge the use of electric busses and electric taxis.

I asked the candidates what their position was on late night entertainment spots for the under-21 crowd. They all

See COUNCIL, page 4



Nan Sawyer



Dan Foster for CITY COUNCIL

Nationwide we're seeing a trend toward less government — less involvement in our lives, less needless regulation. We can do the same in Portland too. City government doesn't need to be controlling. City government should be a helper and supporter of its citizens, the taxpayers. As city councilor I'll work toward this goal.

My Goals as City Councilor Would Be:

- To encourage new business and industry with less regulation.
- To be an enemy of wasteful spending.
- To lessen city involvement where it is not needed.
- To encourage new ideas for solving the continued parking problems of the city.
- To expect that taxpayers are receiving excellent services for their money.

Dan Foster Is:

- A Democrat - socially liberal, fiscally conservative.
- A community and political volunteer.
- Director of Food Service, Woodford Park Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center in Portland.
- Adjunct faculty member, Southern Maine Technical College.
- A resident of 29 Morning Street on Munjoy Hill.

For a ride to the Polls call 874-0944

Paid for and authorized by "Dan Foster for City Council," Mark J. Doody, Treasurer
29 Morning Street, Portland, Maine 04101 • Telephone (207) 874-0944

CITY COUNCIL, from page 3

agreed that there should be such places, though they differed on the details. John McDonough said, "I support a place for underage citizens to go and dance and have a good time. I have a problem with the late night hours — 3, 4 o'clock in the morning. I think that's disruptive to the residents who live around those places, particularly Congress Square. The Council's Public Safety Committee has listened to testimony on that and debated it at length, so my personal feeling on that is that when it gets to be 1 am people should go home. People who are out at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning ought to be home at that hour. A lot of my young friends would disagree with me, my own children would disagree with me."

Tony Holt took a different view. He stated, "I'm really disappointed the city has taken the attitude it has towards restraining these kinds of activities for kids. As a city councilor, I will do my darnedest to change that approach and even encourage these kinds of activities for under 21 as long as drinking is not involved, and, of course it can't be because it's illegal. I think it's a wonderful idea. I have a 15 year-old son. I know what he's capable of if he doesn't



Tony Holt

have an organized place to go."

Paula Agopian said, "I think there is a need for that, especially if its non-alcoholic, as long as the kids are not being disruptive to the people who are abutting them. I don't see it as a problem. I don't see a problem with a 3 am closing time as long as they're not being disruptive. As far as I'm concerned they can stay open until 5 o'clock in the morning, they can be open 24 hours a day. In Europe places don't close at 1 o'clock. This is change and change is always hard to swallow."

Asked about whether or not Mark's Showplace should be left alone the candidates pretty much agreed that it should be. Some were more emphatic

than others. Tony Holt said, "Strange question — it is there and there is no constitutional way to prevent it from being there. I'm an attorney and I'm a strong first amendment kind of attorney, and I think that the first amendment protects establishments like that, and if you don't like what goes on there, then don't go."

Dan Foster suggested, "Yes, they should be allowed to operate. What's happening is direct harassment... when they start making up all these new laws, they're targeting them specifically."

Paula Agopian added, "I think it's bad that they're trying to shut them down when they are conforming to the zoning requirements at this point. I don't think they have a foot to stand on. I'm not an advocate of that kind of entertainment. I'm not the type of person who would go there... at least at this point in my life I'm not... and it never really appealed to me anyway. But that doesn't mean that other people don't enjoy that kind of entertainment or need that kind of entertainment."

John McDonough said, "Absolutely. We've discussed that and I think that's a matter of choice. If you don't want to go to it, you don't have to. I've never been in to Mark's as Mark's Show-

place. It used to be called the Bounty when it first opened. And I went out there a few times, but I've never been in Mark's. I'm told good things about it, that it's well managed, no police calls out there and the property is well maintained. They are good taxpayers, so they support some of the other things we do



John McDonough

in this city. I just don't think the city should be in the business of regulating morality."

Bruce Webber suggested that the citizens should decide on whether Mark's should be allowed to exist in Portland, presumably, in a referendum.

I asked the candidates to consider the removal of the benches from Longfellow Square. This action was taken because Orlando Delogu, City Councilor, decided the people who sat on the benches were 'undesirable.' Most of the candidates disagreed with the decision to remove the benches but some supported it. McDonough said, "I know why they were taken out. It was because they were being used as a place for transient, homeless, young people to congregate. I'm told it was disruptive to the businesses and it was intimidating for a lot of our elderly citizens to be on the sidewalks. That may be true, I don't know. I didn't have anything to do with removing the benches, that was done by a couple of our City Councilors in whose district it was done. Obviously, I support their decision if they said they had enough reason to do it. I think it's only for a trial period, so if it doesn't work out we'll do something different."

Patricia Bernard put an economic spin on the situation, hurling the Bill of Rights out the window. She opined, "I'm not against removing the benches to attract business. We need to project a positive image in this city because of this stupid recession. Even though they (the undesirables) are not doing anything wrong, it doesn't look good."

Peter Rickett said that, "'undesirable' is in the eye of the beholder. It's too open to personality. I'd like to see a picture of Orlando when he graduated or when he's older, maybe we wouldn't let him sit on that park bench. Let's look at the problems that make this a problem."

The changes in access and use of Deering Oaks Park over the last year has had an impact on many people. Gay men in particular have been affected because Deering Oaks, known on the street as 'Pickle Park,' was traditionally a night time cruising spot for meetings and pick

See CITY COUNCIL, page 21



"Coming of Age" The Maine Lesbian & Gaymen's SYMPOSIUM XXI

Friday-Monday, May 26-29, 1995, University of Maine at Presque Isle
This year we gather for Maine's 21st statewide conference, "Coming of Age." When one reaches the "age of majority" — one's 21st year — society considers you grown, mature, an adult, responsible for your actions. As we meet for the 21st time, are our state's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered communities grown up and mature? Have we come of age? These are just some of the questions we will address this weekend.

Maine is facing an attack by the radical right in the form of a statewide referendum which, if passed by the voters in November, will restrict the civil rights protections of Maine's citizens. Our Sunday "Town Meeting" provides an opportunity to discuss the status of the campaign to defeat this ballot question.

Your Symposium Hosts This year's Symposium sponsors are the men and women of Northern Lambda Nord, Maine's oldest community-based organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people. This is the fourth time Northern Lambda Nord has hosted this event. Founded in 1980 and based in Caribou, NLN serves northern Maine and neighbouring New Brunswick towns, from the Houlton-Woodstock region in the south to Madawaska-Edmundston in the north. Since 1982 Northern Lambda Nord has operated the Gay-Lesbian Phoneline of Maine, the only service of its kind in the state. In September 1994, NLN scored another first with the establishment of the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center of Northern Maine. The Center is home to the Gay-Lesbian Phoneline and to NLN's 1000-volume lending library; it also serves as a central meeting place for the region.

The Conference Site Since 1992, the last time Symposium met in Aroostook County, the the University of Maine campus at Presque Isle has been renovated and expanded. Symposium XXI will use the new Campus Center for registration, films, workshops, opening and closing sessions, the bookseller, Saturday's banquet and dance, and Sunday's barbeque. Other meals will be served in the adjacent Kelly Commons Dining Hall. Dormitory housing offers motel-like accommodations with pillow, bedding, towels, and soap provided. The UMPI campus is wheelchair accessible.

Early registration discount ends May 1st!

The Details • KEYNOTES Mary Bonauto, Boston attorney working with "Maine Won't Discriminate" to fight the referendum. Tuma Young, MicMac activist with Atlantic First Nations AIDS Task Force in Halifax, speaks on "The Fine Line Between Spirituality & Sexuality." • **ENTERTAINERS** Karen Williams "Funniest woman on the comedy stage today!" The Marltones 12 voices of 55-member Maine Gay Men's Chorus • **BENEFIT CASINO** The Gay-Lesbian Phoneline of Maine wants a toll-free number. Proceeds will go towards establishing 1-800 service. • **BOOKSELLER** will offer a large selection of titles of interest. • **WORKSHOPS** will feature a wide variety of topics. • **HOUSING** Dormitory rooms, double occupancy; linen, blanket, pillow, towel provided. **Limited space, first come, first served. Guaranteed housing reservation MUST be received by May 1, 95.** • **MEALS** Full meal plan: Saturday breakfast, lunch, buffet supper; Sunday brunch & barbeque; Monday breakfast. Meat and vegetarian menus available. **Please reserve your meal ticket by May 1, 1995.** • **CHILD CARE** Free - ages 2½ & older; requests must be received by May 1, 95. • **REGISTRATION** Registration fee includes admission to all events. Housing and meals are not included in the registration fee. • **PICK-A-PLAN Early Registration Discount Prices end May 1st. U.S. funds only. Non-refundable deposits required!** Plan A - "The Full Package": three nights lodging, six meals, and registration, all for \$109 (requires a \$50 non-refundable deposit). Plan B - Two nights, six meals, registration, \$95 (\$50 deposit). Plan C - One night, five meals, registration, \$80 (\$50 deposit). Plan D - Six meals plus registration, \$65 (\$50 deposit). Plan E - Registration only, \$25 (no deposit). Plan E available at the door. **PLEASE NOTE:** To qualify for the Discount Prices, your non-refundable deposits must be postmarked by May 1, 1995. After May 1st, registration prices/deposits are (U.S. funds) Plan A - \$125/\$50, Plan B - \$110/\$50, Plan C - \$90/\$50, Plan D - \$75/\$50, Plan E - \$25/\$0. • **LIMITED-INCOME REGISTRATIONS** Some registrations are available for limited-income persons who wish to help during Symposium in exchange for reduced fees; students especially encouraged. Check the appropriate box on the form to the right. • **SYMPOSIUM INFO:** 207/498-2088 Call Wednesdays, 7-9pm; leave message at other times

YES! I want to spend Memorial Day Weekend in Presque Isle! PRE-REGISTRATION

MAINE LESBIAN & GAYMEN'S SYMPOSIUM XXI
MAY 26-29, 1995 • UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT PRESQUE ISLE
SYMPOSIUM XXI IS HOSTED BY NORTHERN LAMBDA NORD, INC.

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I am registering by May 1st for (check one):

☐ plan A ☐ plan B ☐ plan C ☐ plan D ☐ plan E
US\$109 US\$95 US\$80 US\$65 US\$25
\$50 DEPOSIT \$50 DEPOSIT \$50 DEPOSIT \$50 DEPOSIT NO DEPOSIT

Registrations postmarked after May 1st will cost:

A US\$125 B US\$110 C US\$90 D US\$75 E US\$25
\$50 DEPOSIT \$50 DEPOSIT \$50 DEPOSIT \$50 DEPOSIT NO DEPOSIT

I will need on-campus Housing (which nights?):

☐ Friday night ☐ Saturday night ☐ Sunday night

☐ I wish to have an Alcohol-free room

I will share a Room with _____

☐ Please send me Hotel, Motel & Campground info

☐ I request reduced-price Work Exchange registration

☐ I request free Child Care — must be reserved by May 1

Number of children _____ Ages of children _____

Special Needs:

☐ Wheelchair accessibility ☐ Sight assistance

☐ Signing ☐ Other _____

My non-refundable Deposit for the plan selected above is enclosed - U.S. funds only - Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to NLN-Symposium XXI

Mail this form and payment to:

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P.O. BOX 990, CARIBOU ME 04736-0990 USA

The Oakland Forum: Radical Right-0, Maine-1

by Karen Geraghty

On Saturday evening, March 25, a public forum was held at the Oakland Unitarian Universalist Church. The purpose of the forum was to discuss the upcoming referendum. The panelists who supported the referendum included three representatives of the Christian Civic League of Maine (CCL), George Theberge, Sam Richards and Paul Madore, and one representative from Concerned Maine Families (CMF), Dennis Daigle. Those speaking in opposition to the referendum included the Attorney General's office, Steve Wessler, the Maine Council of Churches Executive Director, Tom Ewell, and the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance represented by this reporter.

Each panelist was given 10 minutes to speak to the audience about the referendum. Even though all panelists were given the same instructions, to educate the public about the referendum, not all stuck to the assignment. The boys from the Christian Civic League talked about little else except sex and morality and special rights and quotas. It is interesting to note that although the Maine Times headline from June 11, 1993 says, "Civic League backs hate crimes bill," this is not really the case. What they said in 1993 was that, "There must be no disagreement over the need to protect all our citizens - gay and straight

alike - from violence, or the threat of violence." George Theberge, the 1st Vice President of the CCL said at the Forum that not only does he not see the need for hate crimes protection for gays and lesbians, he doesn't believe we should have hate crimes protection for anyone. This was one of the most astounding points all evening!

The gentlemen representing CMF was a quadriplegic from Brunswick who warned us that elderly and handicapped people in Maine will suffer if this referendum doesn't get passed. The reason, you ask? Well, it seems as though "truly deserving minorities" (as defined by CMF) such as the elderly and handicapped will have to split the "pot of rights" with the queer population and there aren't enough rights to go around. So... don't allow anyone else protection from discrimination under the Maine Human Rights Act because too many people already have

protection. Have you ever heard anything so crazy?

Once the panelists were finished giving presentations, we took questions from the audience. The most important thing I can tell you about the question and answer period is it became evident to me (as the only woman and the only queer on the panel) that we have to prevent the lies of the radical right from invading our thoughts and feelings about ourselves. I saw and heard so many gay people in the audience struggling to feel like decent human beings after they sat through that two hour discussion. We have to help each other construct ways to deflect their lies and go on about the business of living our lives, fighting for our rights, and opposing this referendum.

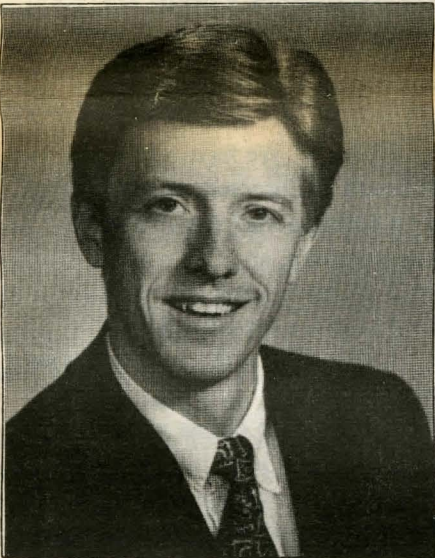
It is quite clear that the anti-gay rhetoric is already at an annoying and unacceptable level and it is only going to get worse. CMF is trying to pit different mi-

nority communities against one another. CCL is going to try and pit religious groups against each other, and the tone of this debate is going to be difficult and painful for many people to hear, but especially queers.

In addition to the angry and hurt queers in attendance, there were community members who truly came to get educated. From what I could gather from comments and phone calls I received from many of these community members (I passed out my card), they left feeling like we, the opponents, had tried to educate. They said we laid our arguments out clearly and that we made sense. The general feeling was that the proponents had done nothing except attack those who were different from their narrow vision of the norm. That's what we've been saying all along.

This debate was the first of many that will happen between now and November 7. We must be strong in knowing who and what we are. Once you know that, no rhetoric can make you question yourself.

CIVIC LEAGUE, from page 1



Mike Heath, Executive Director, Christian Civic League

ity of government on the side of disenfranchised minority groups. The premise of the act is that it is legitimate in certain special circumstances for Maine citizens to lend the power and authority of their government to the aspirations for equality of some of their fellow citizens.

"For every right, there is a corresponding responsibility. The right to have access to the proceedings (including the imposition of criminal penalties on the offender) allowed for by the civil rights acts, necessitates the responsibility of the public to support governments circumscribing their behavior. Is it reasonable for even one Maine citizen to be at risk of violating the civil rights act in the case of homosexuality? I think not, since there is a difference between making a moral distinction and practicing discrimination."

CONTROL, from page 1

would elevate CCL's voice to a cooperative partnership role in the Maine campaign would mean a coordinated campaign. And that we believe, necessitates agreeing on central leadership."

The Christian Civic League refuses to accept Cosby's demand that CCL recognize the control of their movement by Tony Marco and Bruce Fein. Marco is leader and founder of the failed, Colorado Amendment 2 and Bruce Fein is the high-priced lawyer from Virginia who is running CMF's political campaign. Fein told Cosby in a letter dated August 18, 1994 that their political campaign must avoid, "evoking passions."

Cosby quickly abandoned her attack on homosexual behavior and tried to elevate her efforts to the plane of a "debate regarding civil rights issues."

She writes in this most recent press release, "This campaign will not be a bait and switch campaign. Having begun our campaign as a debate regarding civil rights issues, we will not now switch to a campaign of disgust regarding gay sexual behavior." As usual, however, in this denial lies the truth. CMF did indeed begin their campaign as an attack on gay sexual behavior and only recently switched to a legalistic approach on the advice of Fein. If one examines the CMF brochure distributed throughout Maine during the signature gathering phase of their campaign (spring and summer of 1994) one clearly sees the attack on behavior.

Cosby's brochure entitled, "What's Wrong with Special Gay Rights? You be the Judge!" includes the following passages: "... gays engage in deviant sexual behaviors like anal intercourse, fisting (inserting a fist or entire arm into

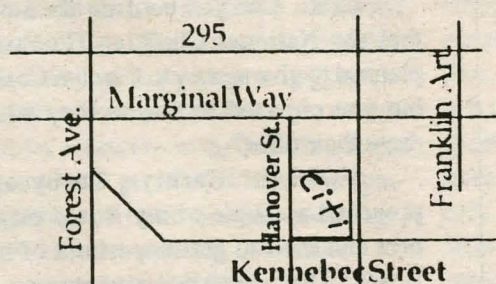
a partner's rectum); urinating or defecating on partners; sadomasochism; even ingesting feces and urine." The brochure goes on in this vein. The CMF campaign is a bait and switch campaign in reverse.

Perhaps the most outrageous of all of Cosby's absurd statements is her infamous, "Resolution in Support of Principled Debate" in which she calls for "the highest standards of political discourse." A member of her Board of Advisers, Jonathan Malmude, recently appeared with her on the WMPG-FM radio talk show "Big Talk." Malmude, a professor at St. Joseph's College in Standish is quoted as saying to Cosby, just after the show, "Have a great day, punch out a gay." They laughed. What Cosby and her henchmen say in private belies their public statements.

So much for Cosby's "commitment to take the moral high ground."



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POWER STRUGGLE from page 1

males or special rights for a lot of various groups. That's not the issue that I'm concerned about. My concern is that there is equal protection under the law and that we're following the law.

CPR: There's been an equal rights law introduced into the legislature for the past several years which would ban discrimination in housing, employment, credit and public accommodation on the basis of sexual orientation, what would be your position on that?

VOLLE: Well, that seems like it's somewhat of an ambivalent law because my sexual orientation happens to be heterosexual. How do I prove that they are discriminating against me because I'm a heterosexual. For example, let's say I was going to get a mortgage or a loan

from an institution and the guy that's the loan manager is a black person and I'm a white person — do I say, 'gee, the reason I didn't get the loan is because I was white and he was black' or maybe I'm heterosexual and maybe somebody's bisexual or whatever the case may be. It seems like it can't be well-defined.

CPR: The Maine Chronicle is the newspaper for the Christian Coalition of Maine. I read the March 1995 issue and didn't see any reference to homosexuals or the equal rights struggle. Why is that, especially since it's so topical in Maine right now?

VOLLE: There are others who are speaking about that and there are other constitutional issues that we're really concerned about right now and it's just not on the front burner as far as our

newspaper is concerned.

CPR: Can you comment on your relationship with Carolyn Cosby in terms of leadership style and your ability to work with her?

VOLLE: Well, I ran for state legislature in 1988 for District 30 in Portland. I won the primary and right after, my campaign manger resigned for personal reasons, so Carolyn Cosby became my campaign manger, and we worked together very closely through 1990, for the next two and a half years. We had a different style in leadership, we had a different style in how we approached some problems.

She was, at one time, the campaign manager for Karen Evans when Evans ran for State Senate against Robin Lambert. There was no secret what Robin's sexual orientation was or anything of that nature. Apparently, a flyer came out just a short time before that primary election (regarding Lambert's sexual orientation) and I was contacted by Tony Payne, Robin Lambert's campaign manager, who asked me what I knew about the flyer (the flyer attacked Robin Lambert) because at that time I was the Cumberland County Republican Chairman. I said, 'I'll investigate.' Tony and others believed that the genesis of that flyer was myself and Carolyn Cosby, and, in fact, we were subpoenaed to appear before the Governmental Ethics and Campaign Practices Commission, and I did appear before them and Carolyn Cosby appeared and Carolyn got ejected from that.

I told the commission I would share all the information I had, but they wanted me to testify under oath which I refused. They found me in contempt of the commission which they had no authority to do... the court supported me. Six months later a father and son named Harrigan said they were ones who put out the flyer.

Well, Carolyn's approach on that was very belligerent, and my approach was to try to be co-operative. I had nothing to do with the flyer. I thought it was a late hit. We varied on approach there, so later on there were some challenges to leadership and some other things that happened, and finally I told Carolyn, "I choose not to work with you. Our styles are different. Develop your own followership. If you want to be a leader, develop your own group."

CPR: Do you think the referendum will be successful in Maine?

VOLLE: Personally I don't think it will survive the court challenge.

CPR: But if it did?

VOLLE: But if it did — I don't think they've gotten off to a good start with it, to be honest with you. I would say it's a flip of the coin at this point.

CPR: Can you confirm the story that the National Christian Coalition planned to give money to Carolyn Cosby but you objected to that so they withdrew their offer?

VOLLE: Carolyn Cosby approached a couple of my Board members and tried to get support out of my Board. They refused to give support.

CPR: Why?

VOLLE: Our Board had talked

with her lawyer, Bruce Fein. We did some other things and researched and came to the conclusion that their position is a losing constitutional one, and it would be spending good money after bad. And so Carolyn said to one particular Board member that if you're not going to support it, would you make an inquiry to the National to see if we can get some funding out of Ralph Reed (The Executive Director of the National Christian Coalition). My Board refused to do that, and so Carolyn Cosby called up a number of times and tried to get hold of Ralph Reed, and in fact, got a hold of D.J. Dribbins, who is a Field Director, and an inquiry was made to me about what was the referendum about, and what were the issues involved because there had been a change in National Field Directors.

Guy Rogers had been a National Field Director and was up to speed on this, and D.J. Dribbins was a new Field Director and he really wasn't up to speed. So the regional Field Director and I spent a couple of hours together and I went over the wording of the referendum and what our Board's position was, and they concurred with us and so they denied any funding.

Christian Civic League moves to form broad coalition in support of anti-equal rights referendum

Mike Heath is the Executive Director of the Christian Civic League (CCL) of Maine.

CPR: Mike, is it true that you have formed a task force to end so-called 'special rights'?

HEATH: We have a task force of our Board of Directors which is working on defining the League's support of the referendum, and that's as far as I'm able to go, given what the task force has provided to me for guidance.

CPR: What is the task force's purpose?

HEATH: To define what our support is going to look like and how we are going to be engaged publicly. The CCL came out at the end of last year and said that we are actively going to support the referendum. There's nothing that has changed about that, except that the task force has met a few times since then to continue its private discussions about what that support is going to look like, and we've not made any final decisions about that, other than publicly calling for the formation of a coalition. We are discussing a name for the coalition and are pretty close to finalizing that but we're not ready to make that public.

CPR: Will this coalition of groups in support of the referendum include CMF?

HEATH: It could, if...

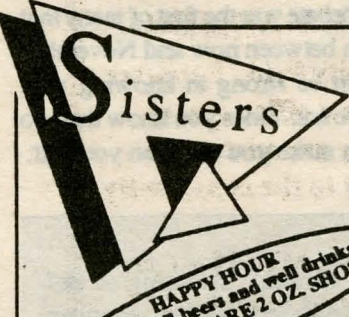
CPR: Does the task force have a name?

HEATH: For our internal purposes we just call it the 'gay rights task force.'

CPR: Is it true that Carolyn Cosby objects to the formation of your own 'gay rights task force'?

HEATH: She hasn't articulated

See POWER STRUGGLE, page 7



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POWER STRUGGLE, from page 6

any 'upset' emotions to me but she has issued a press release entitled, "Statement of Principles." Some have construed that document as her having some kind of concern about what we're doing.

CPR: Is she concerned about there being too many separate groups working on this issue?

HEATH: Yes, and I think she said in there that CMF won't be part of anything that makes certain arguments in support of the referendum.

CPR: Do you know what those are?

HEATH: Just get a copy from her. — (see side bar, page 1, left)

CPR: Quite frankly, she doesn't supply us with anything. (Ed. note: In fact, Carolyn Cosby did not return our phone call in which we asked her for comment on this story.)

CPR: Is one of the reasons for your forming a task force of your own that you disagree with Cosby's leadership?

HEATH: The CCL decided that we would support the referendum on our own. The way we view it is that there is now, because of the work of CMF, a public referendum on this issue and we, like any other group, may choose to support it in any number of different ways. One way would be to become part of the CMF team and proceed under their banner, another way is to proceed independently, alongside, making the arguments that we feel need to be made in support of the referendum, notwithstanding what CMF would or would not say about those arguments.

CPR: CPR has a copy of a letter written by Cosby to you, dated December 13, 1994, concerning 'Developing a Working Relationship.' The P.S. on that letter mentions the fact that your organization supports the inclusion of sexual orientation in Maine's Hate Crimes Act and that if CCL wants to work with CMF you must, as Cosby writes, "prepare a public statement refuting that." What is your position on that request?

HEATH: The Christian Civic League continues to be consistent with its position of three years ago under Jack Wyman's leadership. Officially, we still support that. I am, as of Friday (April 14), going to be recommending in a letter to Steve Wessler and CCL's Board of Directors, that we change our position on that and that we urge the state to remove sexual orientation from the

Maine Civil Rights Act. That's my position at this point, that's not the League's position.

(Ed. note — The terms "Maine Civil Rights Act" and "Maine's Hate Crimes Act" are used interchangeably.)

CPR: How can the CCL support sexual orientation in the Hate Crimes Act and also support the referendum?

HEATH: My letter addresses that. I'll send it to you. — (see side bar, page 1, right)

CPR: Referring again to Cosby's letter of 12/13/94, she states that in order for you to work with CMF you will have to accept the leadership of Tony Marco and Bruce Fein. Comment?

HEATH: The guiding light of CCL is the 40 member Board of Directors which is made up of people from all over the state of Maine. We are our own organization, our own entity. We are not going to take leadership cues from anybody.

CPR: Is that part of the problem you're having in working with Cosby?

HEATH: We did not address the issue of Marco and Fein in her letter. We, in fact, haven't addressed... those aren't issues to us. We haven't responded to them. What's an issue to us is supporting the referendum in ways that are consistent with our principles, and part of that is calling for the formation of a broadly based coalition to support the referendum, and making arguments which are sensible and which are going to help the people of Maine make a wise decision in November. It hasn't been about whether or not Marco and Fein can bring some good arguments, probably they can. As far as accepting their leadership as a condition for a relationship with CMF — no, that's just not an issue for us.

CPR: There seems to be a real difference between Cosby and you in terms of leadership. In the December letter she calls for "central leadership" and yet you want to be independent.

HEATH: She can speak for herself on that issue. What we're saying is that we're going to support the referendum the way that we feel that we need to do it.

CPR: How do you plan to support it?

HEATH: We're not prepared to say publicly because we haven't debated it internally yet as fully as we need to.

CPR: One of the ways people anticipate that you're going to support the

referendum is through the churches with which you are affiliated.

HEATH: We will be talking with our membership which includes some churches and we will be articulating, as we have for one hundred years, our position on the referendum, which is a position in support of it.

CPR: What is your relationship with the Christian Coalition of Maine and its leader, Paul Volle?

HEATH: I know Paul and I know what you know about them, and you may know more about their inner workings than I do. I just know him, that's all. They don't have representation on our Board. We don't have representation on their Board.

CPR: Why can't your two groups work more cooperatively?

HEATH: How do you mean?

CPR: It would seem that two Christian groups such as yours would have a lot in common and would be able to have a working relationship.

HEATH: Well, I didn't say we didn't.

CPR: Right, but, do you?

HEATH: We have a working relationship with them the same way I have a working relationship with any number of other groups. It's not a unique relationship. I'm not sure what your driving at.

CPR: I'm just wondering why you're not more unified. Why is there a need for two Christian groups that have similar political agendas.

HEATH: Well, just as America has all sorts of groups who come at things in different ways so do we. I think we

agree on most issues. I can't think of any big disagreements.

CPR: Paul Volle thinks the referendum is unconstitutional and that it is a waste of money. Can you comment on that?

HEATH: No.

CPR: Do you expect the Board of Directors of your organization to go along with you in your request that CCL abandon its position supporting the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Maine Civil Rights Act?

HEATH: I expect that, but our Board is kind of big.

CPR: Why are you urging this change?

HEATH: I'll send you my letter.

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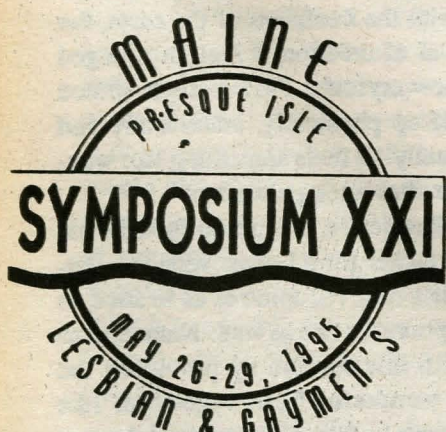
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To Your Health: Chlamydia-A Concern for Lesbians, Part I

by Peaches Bass

Here's a "Rainbow Family of the 1990's" scenario:

A lesbian who's interested in getting pregnant charts her menstrual cycles and diligently uses insemination by donor at her time of ovulation. After a year and a half of monthly inseminations, she is still not pregnant. Her health care provider refers her to an infertility specialist.

What's wrong with this picture? The answer could be simple — Chlamydia.

Chlamydia (kluh-MID-ee-yuh) is a classification of several infections that are caused by a sub-bacterial organism called *chlamydia trachomatis*. Until the mid 1980's, this organism was chiefly known as the cause of trachoma, a disease that is a leading reason for adult blindness in developing countries. Chlamydia is also a major cause of blindness, pneumonia, and death among infants.

It is only within the last 10-15 years that larger numbers of health care providers have realized that chlamydia is also a sexually transmitted disease, and largely responsible for non-gonococcal urethritis (NGU) in men, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) in women, and sterility in both men and women.

While chlamydia is seen as a ma-

jor health concern for heterosexuals, women who have sex with other women should be aware that we, too, can contract this sexually transmitted disease (STD). As with most STDs, lesbians are, statistically, at lower risk for chlamydia, but bisexual women and lesbians who have had sex with men are at the same level of risk as heterosexual women.

Nationally, there are an estimated 3-5 million cases of chlamydia annually. In women, it causes one million cases of PID, of which 200,000 will require hospitalization. 11,000 cases annually result in female sterility.

There are other problems with chlamydia. It can be asymptomatic in 50-80% of infected women and 10% of infected men. Thus, people can be actively infected and not know it, and they can unwittingly infect their sex partners. (A pregnant woman who is infected can unknowingly pass the organism to her baby during childbirth.)

Until the mid-80's, it was expensive and complicated to test for chlamydia infections. Now, manufacturers produce tests that are easy to perform and fairly inexpensive, making chlamydia screening more routine and affordable.

Chlamydia commonly coexists with other STDs. For example, it can

See HEALTH, page 27



Brian and friend visit Lady Liberty

Flaunting It

by Brian Kaufman

Choosing a title for a column is hardly a task to be taken lightly. After listening to a recording of Tom Wilson Weinberg's 1987 off-Broadway show, Ten Percent Revue, I decided upon the title of one of the show's catchier tunes. . . "Flaunting It." I like the simple truth of the song. To make a long song short, it says that if living with integrity is flaunting it, then let's flaunt it! Let's show affection, question the candidates, and ask our employers for domestic partner benefits. Yes indeed. Let's flaunt it.

No matter how hard some of us may try to be discreet, those who insist upon hating us will continue to say that we are flaunting "it" simply by existing. So let's really flaunt it, and enjoy lives resplendent with self-respect, a zeal for life, and the recognition of that special joy we feel for our same-sex loves. I created this title for the column: Free-thinking, Loving And Uncompromising Natural Tendencies Inspire Noble Gains — It's Terrific! Of course, "Flaunting It" is a far easier way to remember this simple maxim for modern living. We should all enjoy flaunting it! It is my hope that this column will serve as a guide for flaunting it safely and with an awareness of associated risks and rewards.

Some readers are already mortified just by the title of this column, and wish I would go away. "Does he really have to write about this?" Please bear with me and remember that whatever we do as a community to procure equal treat-

ment in our society is regarded by conservatives as "flaunting it." Flaunting it, of course, is a continuum. It ranges from quietly placing your loved one's picture on your desk to showing up at your employer's holiday party in drag that makes Tammy Faye Baker look drab.

Educators in New Jersey aren't exactly flaunting it, but many parents are incensed about a "prejudice reduction" program which doesn't specifically address sexual minorities, but permits open discussions among students relating to their stereotypes and fears of homosexuality. The program, incorporated into almost all of the state's 595 school districts, places prejudice reduction instruction in the curriculum alongside traditional subjects and requires that teachers weave prejudice reduction into all subjects that they teach.

New Jersey Governor Christine Whitman has been outspoken in her support of her state's Office of Bias Crime and Community Relations, which is touted as the first of its kind in the nation. Yes, Maine does have a Hate and Bias Crime unit which operates (unfunded) within the jurisdiction of the Attorney General's office. Assistant Attorney General Steve Wessler has taken his show on the road to gay bars and school assemblies when invited, but without the support staff or services that made it possible for his New Jersey counterparts to actually write the Prejudice Reduction Education Program (PREP). New Jersey Deputy Attorney General Robin Parker, head of the Bias Crime and Community Relations unit, claims the results have been effective in making schools safer from violence and harassment. Conceding that "we can't be attitude cops," Parker notes that 40% of hate crimes are committed by juveniles aged 10 to 17, and that after introducing the program, not one hate crime has been reported in participating communities.

Opponents of PREP are calling the anti-bias initiative social engineering. I prefer to think of it as flaunting it. I encourage Governor King to convene a task force on sexual minority youth, following in the footsteps of Massachusetts Governor Weld, and then to heed the example of Governor Whitman by "flaunting it." ΔΔ

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Chew on This

by Rose Mary Denman



Spring is finally here! On Saint Patrick's Day weekend, I went to Rhode Island to visit relatives. Their front lawn was ablaze with the purples, yellows and whites of daffodils, hyacinths and crocus. As my cousin asked me how spring was coming "up there in Maine," at least I could tell him that the snow was all melted! (At least in Portland!) Who knows, by the time

you read this, you may be telling all your friends about the lovely flowers growing in your yard.

When I think of spring, I realize that with the freshness of the earth, the renewal of creation, I feel encouraged to renew myself . . . to somehow spruce myself up physically, emotionally and spiritually. It feels something like waking up after a long slumber.

Physically, it's time to shed the old down jacket for a lighter version. Perhaps it's time for some of us to shed an extra pound or two as well. Nature helps us with this resolve by providing the most wonderful fresh vegetables like asparagus so thin, firm and crunchy that

See CHEW, page 25

Homosexuality and disability: a personal perspective

by "Christopher Ryan"

It is hard enough to belong to one minority group. However, I belong to two. I am a gay man who also uses a wheelchair. Neither status did I ask for, but I continue learning and growing because of them.

I first started feeling attracted to guys around the age of thirteen. These feelings seemed natural to me, so I felt pretty comfortable with them. At the same time, I was also attracted to women, but I felt many times that I forced these feelings on myself. I did not date women throughout junior/senior high school because I did not want to pretend to be straight; I would not even consider dating men in high school because I was afraid of being harassed at school if I did.

I started coming out of my shell a little when I went to college. Being away from home, getting used to a new wheelchair, new classes, and living in a residence hall, was enough to keep my mind occupied for many months. The sexuality part of my life took a back seat. College was the first place I ever met people who were "out of the closet," and comfortable with themselves. Even though I was sometimes shocked and surprised with what they had to say, I was shown people who dealt with life head-on, and I will always admire them. (As college went on, I was also surprised to learn how many people were still in the closet, like me.)

My sexuality as it relates to my disability is kind of a tricky issue.



Throughout junior/senior high school, I was considered to be a real nice guy, but not a person to date (read, I was a dork!). I thought it would be many years before I had a date. I was also afraid of people not finding me sexually desirable because of my wheelchair. I know this sounds like a cliché out of THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW, but it took being in my first relationship to realize that it was not so much about the other person, it was about me feeling comfortable with myself. I had more hang-ups about my disability than my partner did. This is an issue I still think about often.

I am a little more out of the closet than I was when I was in college. My immediate family, and my friends know, and thankfully they still love me. I am still really afraid to come out to people I do not know. In fact, it took a lot for me to write this article, but I am glad I did!

Maine AIDS Walk '95

by Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

On Sunday, May 7, hundreds of people across the state of Maine will participate in the Maine AIDS Walk '95, a fund raising event to benefit many of the AIDS service organizations in the state. Participation is not restricted to walkers. Sponsors for walkers, sponsors for placing ads in local newspapers, organizing employees to walk as a group, post fliers, distribute pledge sheets and/or volunteering the day of the walk to help with any number of tasks, are but a few of the ways in which you can help.

The Chairperson of the Hallowell/Augusta Maine AIDS Walk Committee, Michel F. Lussier, told CPR recently that, "Of the nine Maine AIDS Walk-a-thons occurring in the state on May 7, two benefit Dayspring AIDS Support Services which has offices in Augusta and Waterville." Lussier added, "As with all agencies which care for people with AIDS, Dayspring has seen a frightening increase in its case-load, about 100% over the past three years." Dayspring serves five central Maine counties: Kennebec, Franklin, Lincoln, Sagadahoc and Somerset, and covers an area from the Canadian border to the north and the coast to the south.

The Hallowell-Augusta walk is 10K with an optional 5K and begins at

the Hallowell City Hall on Winthrop Street, loops into Augusta, and ends at the Hallowell town gazebo. The Waterville walk is also 10K and begins and ends at the Unitarian Universalist Church at the intersection of Spring and Elm Streets. Registration begins at noon in Hallowell and 12:30 PM in Waterville.

The Portland Walk is a 5-mile walk around Back Cove. The beginning and ending point is Cheverus High School where walkers will be treated to entertainment and refreshments before, during and after the Walk. Registration is from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, with opening ceremonies scheduled for 12:30 PM. The Portland Walk benefits The AIDS Project, People with AIDS Coalition of Maine, The AIDS Lodging House, The NAMES Project/Maine, Peabody House and PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support).

At 1:00 PM an anticipated large crowd of enthusiastic, well sponsored walkers will step off for Maine AIDS Walk '95 all across Maine. The Walk will take place rain or shine. The insert enclosed in this issue of CPR can be used to gather your pledges. Just be sure to turn the money over to the agency/geographical location you are representing in the Walk. Sign up sponsors and dust off those walking shoes.



Balle Flamenco front, l-r: Nicole Perl and Joy Hagstrom. Back, l-r: Nancy Morgan and Helena Melone.

Talent abounds at AIDS Response Seacoast

by Frank DeSarro

An eclectic group of seacoast entertainers ranging from Flamenco dancers to country singers will perform in "Sharing Our Talents," a benefit for AIDS Response Seacoast on Monday, April 24 at 8:00 PM. The performance will be held in the Unitarian Universalist Church on State Street in downtown Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The evening of entertainment, presented by Seacoast Gay Men and sponsored by local merchants, will feature the premiere performance of "I Think of Little Else Than of Them," a lyrical tribute to Paul Monette, the nationally acclaimed author and poet who recently died of AIDS. The piece will be sung by the compose, Robert E. Grant, and accompanied by Emily Haggerty, organist of the Unitarian Universalist

Church.

Other performers include Dan Williams, pop/country singer; Veronica Schwindler and Ralph Hamilton of the Ballet of New England; Lance Gunderson, Flamenco guitarist; Conor O'Brien, singer/songwriter/guitarist; Bobby Gautreau, comedian; Roger Kent, pianist; Dante, exotic dancer; James Haller, author/storyteller and a number of other vocalists, dancers and musicians.

A raffle to benefit ARS will cap the program. Tickets for the performance are \$5 donation and may be obtained from ARS, Members Club, Karen's Restaurant, members of Seacoast Gay Men and at the door.

For more information, contact Frank DeSarro (207) 439-8635. ΔΔ

JONATHAN'S OGUNQUIT PRESENTS . . .

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Michael Musto, New York Daily Times

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Community Pride Reporter

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EDITORIALS



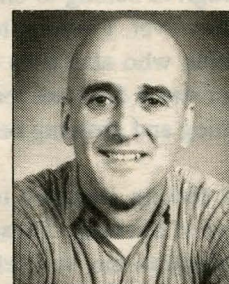
What happens when you move your entire base of operations from one over-stuffed office into a suite of five offices, two of which you need to find tenants for quickly, take a three day trip to Washington, DC for an intense dose of diversity training the same weekend of the move, participate in a fund raiser being held for you, and are one of the subjects of a BBC movie documentary being filmed in your home and your office by one of the most respected photographers of the century? On top of that, throw in a printer who is off to inspect and supervise the moving of a new printing press into his business space which is being renovated around the work he's trying to put out, and it's almost comical.

Not really! What happens is your editors are frazzled, exhausted not having slept in the last 40 hours, and the April/May edition is later than usual.

We are suffering from growing pains of the highest order it seems. While our expansion into New Hampshire has been a dream with some footwork being done, suddenly we are beginning to hear from folks in New Hampshire who want to be included in CPR. They are suggesting more distribution sites and potential advertisers. This is good news on the one hand and overwhelming news on the other hand. As CPR comes up on its second birthday in a few weeks, we are going to be looking at some ways to save wear and tear on us.

We would welcome suggestions and comments from our readers and we would love to meet some of you at our open house/office warming on May 12th. Stop by and let's talk about our futures. Many of the volunteers who help with CPR will be on hand from 5-7 PM. We hope you will be there too.

Winnie Weir



Endorsements

There are two openly gay candidates in the May 2 municipal elections in Portland — Dan Foster, running for an at-large seat on the City Council and Scott Erik Richard who is running for an at-large seat on the School Committee. The Community Pride Reporter endorses both of these candidates, and, only these candidates, enthusiastically. We strongly urge you to vote for them.

While it is true that sexual orientation is hardly a qualifying factor for good public service (just look at the job the heterosexuals have done) it is also true that openly gay candidates who become openly gay officeholders help set the standard and explode the myths. It seems at times that the purpose of homosexuals on earth is to challenge heterosexuals to rise to the best that is in them. Let's help Mr. Foster and Mr. Richard provide that challenge. It's great to be gay!

Bruce Balboni

CPR MAIL BAG

Dear Editor,

I am so proud that Maine now has a dedicated group of gay men who perform as our Gay Men's Chorus. That pride was diminished, however, by the distress and discomfort I felt during their recent concert in which the chorus performed a series of operatic and show tunes portraying heterosexual love. I am not heterophobic, but there was something just too awkward about watching self-acknowledged gay men proclaiming romantic love to a female soprano rented just for this occasion. There were dozens of people in the audience like myself who have finally stopped buying into the heterosexist version of "happily ever after," and painful chords were

struck as we watched these opposite-sex love songs being performed under the guise of the Maine Gay Men's Chorus. It would have been hilarious to see the group belt out "I Feel Pretty" instead of "Maria," and how appropriate "There's a Place for Us" would have been given Maine's forthcoming anti-gay referendum. Is the Maine Gay Men's Chorus suffering from internalized homophobia? I'll want to check the program before supporting them with my ticket money in the future!

Sincerely, Ira T. Consumer (name withheld on request)

Dear Editor,
I am presently incarcerated in the

Kentucky State Penitentiary. This correspondence is in hope that you will consider assisting me in an attempt to meet new friends via a published ad within your publication. Due to the great distance I find myself from home, difficulty in meeting new people and the loneliness sometimes becomes unbearable. For this reason I greatly request that you will do me honor and place my ad that is listed below. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and anything you are able to do is highly appreciated.

Cordially yours,
Marvin Ray Gardner

(Editor's note: Because this letter arrived just prior to going to press, it could not make it into the personals this month. We are printing the ad in the CPR Mail Bag and encourage readers to consider becoming a Pen Pal.)

LONELY, INCARCERATED G.M.- I am incarcerated and will soon be released. I can definately relocate. I'm young, healthy, clean, disease free, honest, romantic, educated, well endowed. I am seeking someone who will appreciate my erotic nature and strong desire for a loving and caring monogamous relationship. So if you are out there and looking for real love, please write. I will answer all.

Marvin Ray Gardner #89621
Kentucky State Penitentiary
PO Box 128
Eddyville, KY 42038-0128

The Community Pride Reporter is printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks. This practice reflects our commitment to responsible use of our earth's resources. Using recycled paper sometimes results in the paper having a toned down or grayish tinge. However, we feel this is a small price to pay as Community Pride Reporter does its part to "Color ME Green."

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please enter my one year subscription to Community Pride Reporter/ I will receive 12 issues, delivered in a plain envelope.

The cost for a one year subscription is \$25 (more if you can, less if you can't.). Please make checks payable to CPR and mail to 142 High Street, Suite #623, Portland, Maine 04101.

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AN OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY



by Susan
Farnsworth

Dear Reader,

A few months ago, I wrote a letter asking for your help with the effort to pass a civil rights anti-discrimination bill that would have made it illegal to discriminate against anyone based on their sexual orientation. Thank you, to those who have responded. I am writing again to say we still need your help, even though circumstances have changed. The anti-discrimination bill will not be heard this year, but instead we face a pro-discrimination bill this May and the referendum in November. Here's what happened.

This year it appeared more likely than ever that a bill could be enacted to provide protection of basic rights and ban discrimination based on a person's sexual orientation. But it was recently discovered that the bill's probable success in the legislature could ultimately put it on the ballot along with the Concerned Maine Families' referendum this November. The courts have said that Maine's constitution requires that enacted legislation be put on the ballot if

the legislation conflicts or competes with a referendum scheduled to go on the ballot in the same year. It would be on the ballot in the following format: A. ___ referendum question; B. ___ legislation; or C. ___ none of the above. There would also have to be a second (run off) referendum if no answer got more than 50% of the vote!

As a result of this ballot issue, a decision was made by legislators, folks from the Maine Human Rights Commission and others, not to introduce our anti-discrimination bill this year. Given the scenario just described, we could enact a bill for the first time ever only to get a "none of the above" vote in the fall. Everyone would lose if that happened.

Instead, we are set now to focus all our attention on the referendum. We must tackle it head on and defeat it before we move on to seek protection of basic rights through the legislature next year.

The pending referendum seeks to put limits on the Maine Human Rights Act and keep gay men and lesbians from ever having basic protection against discrimination. The referendum would also repeal the existing Portland Ordinance. It could also repeal hate crimes protections for gay men and lesbians.

Concerned Maine Families got

enough signatures to bring the referendum question to the legislature in the form of a legislative document, L.D. 310, titled "An Act to Limit Protected Classes under Maine Law." The legislature now has to vote either to enact the question presented in this bill brought by these petitions or to reject it and send the issue out for referendum.

There will be a hearing on May 2 at 2 p.m. at the Augusta Civic Center on L.D. 310, before the legislature's judiciary committee. Then the bill goes to the House and Senate for a vote. Of course, we do not want this bill enacted by the legislature!

What next? 1) If you have experienced or witnessed discrimination in Maine based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, credit or public accommodations, please call 1-800-55-MLGPA to testify or to help with the hearing on L.D. 310. AND 2) If you can walk, dance, sing or breathe, join "Maine Won't Discriminate." Fight the unfairness of the referendum!

Call 1-800-55-MLGPA to find out about the next meeting of a "Maine Won't Discriminate" Chapter near you. Bring a friend.

Sincerely,

Susan (Farnsworth)

Portland set to elect three School Committee members

by Bruce Balboni

There are two at large School Committee seats available in the May 2 election. Four candidates are vying for them. One, Carl Mike Roland, is the incumbent. The other three candidates are Scott Erik Richard, Davis Hartwell and Rickey (Rick) Tomazin. Dony-Anna Richards Waxman is running unopposed for the District 3 School Committee seat.

The School Committee candidates are split, roughly, into two groups. Richard, Roland and Waxman support condom availability in the high schools while Tomazin and Hartwell do not. (This split was uniform on my other questions as well.) Richard's and Waxman's support on the condom issue is unequivocal. They both say what has been done is inadequate. They are referring to the new, current policy which states that — condoms will be made available in school-based clinics, but only to low income students. Roland also wishes the policy was more inclusive, but he cites the financial burden that would be imposed if condoms we made available to everyone in both high schools.

Tomazin is firmly opposed. He said he thought it was inappropriate for schools to be doing that and that \$30,000 for the clinics was too much money. He thinks it's not an education issue, that kids know where to get condoms and that regardless of income, the schools should not be making condoms available.

Hartwell was somewhat more flexible. He said he is willing to be convinced otherwise, but that the information presented by the various committees and sub-committees was inadequate. He said the

reports were lacking in scholarship and that they distorted the results of their own survey in order to support their conclusions.

I asked the candidates if they would support diversity education and in that context, the presentation of homosexuality as "normal." Richard said, "Yes." Waxman said, "I think Diversity Day at both high schools is essential to our society and to our children. Discussing and covering the bases of homophobia and homosexuality is important. Lesbians and gays, like heterosexuals, should be recognized in the community for who they are, and not what their sexual preference is. We're all here together. Homosexuality is not abnormal."

Roland said, "We should teach about the student's real experiences including gay and lesbian experience. "Normal" doesn't enter into it.

Tomazin said he'd rather not get into such a discussion. He said he thought the intent of Diversity Day is good, but that some of the content is inappropriate. Hartwell said it is not the school's job to sanction one thing or another but that it's OK to impart information about homosexuality.

No one had a problem with gay or lesbian teachers being out in the classroom, although Hartwell urged discretion, trying to draw a distinction between being out and being out in your face.

All agreed that funding was the greatest challenge facing public education, but Hartwell mentioned Goals 2000 and the quality of education as the most important issue.

On the issue of supporting and initiating programs to address the needs of gay and lesbian students Richard said, "I think we should initiate 100% inclusive curriculum and I support healthy and complete education for every student whether they're gay, lesbian, religious minorities, ethnic minorities or even majorities — every student should be offered education and the same programs and be offered it in equal manner. Gay, lesbian and questioning youth need to have their lives 100% included in the curriculum, which means that when teachers talk about explicit sex in sex education and how to protect yourself, then they need to talk about explicit sex between two men and two women."

Waxman said, "My campaign manager and I are going to address those problems after I'm elected, but I think sexual harassment is happening to those who are gay. I haven't heard that much, but when I went to the public hearings at PRVTC there were gay kids there who said, 'We're getting harassed at school,' and that's because there is so much ignorance out there. I think calling someone a name like "fag-got" is just as bad as carrying a weapon to school, or having drugs in school, or fist fighting, and it should be treated the same way, but I also think suspending a kid because he's angry and ignorant, because he hasn't been educated enough is wrong... I think to be educated about what it is to be gay in America is something that should be a part of our health curriculum. Peer support groups for gay students is a good idea, where you have someone come in and say this is what it feels like when you

Community Pride Reporter

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Our Mission

Community Pride Reporter serves as a source of local, state, national and international news, information, ideas and opinion by and for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people of Maine and seacoast New Hampshire. CPR strives to increase awareness and acceptance of the rich diversity among us, with the intention of infusing the word community with renewed meaning and vitality. CPR pledges to present materials that contribute in positive ways to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people.

Our Editorial Policy

Views and opinions, political and personal, expressed in Community Pride Reporter are those of the individual authors only. Community Pride Reporter may endorse candidates we feel represent our community most completely. Community Pride Reporter disclaims legal responsibility for errors in editorial, or advertising content, as all reasonable care is taken to prevent such errors. If an error has significantly detracted from the clarity of information presented, the Publisher may consider printing a clarification at her discretion.

Submissions Welcome

CPR encourages readers to write! Material submitted for publication must be legibly signed and include address and/or phone number for verification. Please keep letters to the CPR Mailbag to 300 words or less. Slightly longer and more composed submissions may be considered for a guest editorial at the Publisher's discretion. If requested, the Publisher may agree to withhold the name of an author for appropriate reasons.

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say that to me. I think teenagers need a lot of support. The world is spinning really fast."

Tomazin would not discuss this question. He said he wanted good programs for all the students. Roland had nothing in particular in mind for gay and lesbian students but said he sees a need for it. Hartwell said such programs are not appropriate for schools because it would send a message. He suggested that private efforts could address those needs and said he is running to improve the quality of education. ΔΔ

APRIL - MAY CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 19:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM (ME.), 8:00-10:00 PM (N-B) - Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center Drop-In and Open House, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI (207) 498-2088.

Thursday, April 20:

ΔΔ 8:30 PM - Chord on Blue, a percussive, eclectic band appearing at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Tix-\$3. FMI, (207) 772-JOYY.

Friday, April 21:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM (ME.), 8:00-10 PM (N-B) - Northern Lambda Nord sponsors Women's Night at the Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. Smoke/Chem Free. FMI, Sheila-(207) 764-7838.

ΔΔ 7:30 PM - Building Inclusive Community sponsors, "Promoting Health & Wellness for Lesbians: An Overview of the Issues," presented by Tania Jo Hathaway, Coordinator, Lesbian Health Project of Southern Maine. Unitarian Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. Free admission.

Saturday, April 22:

ΔΔ 9:30 AM-12:30 PM - The Lesbian Health Project of So. Maine presents "Can We Talk?: Lesbians Discuss Sexuality." Presented by Peaches Bass, Coordinator, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center Lesbian Health Project. Location: The AIDS Project, 22 Monument Square. Accessible to mobility-impaired. Fee: \$15 individuals, \$25 couples. FMI or to register, (207) 772-2699.

ΔΔ 3:00 PM - First meeting of Citi's Softball Team. FMI call Angie at (207) 780-6719.

Sunday, April 23:

•Δ 1:00-3:00 PM - Earth Day "March for Parks" event to raise money to improve Deering Oaks Park in Portland. Rally at 1:00 PM at Deering Oaks with a 4.5 mile walk around Baxter Blvd. Sponsored by G.H. Bass & Co. in cooperation with Portland's Dept. of Parks and Recreation. FMI, (207) 874-8793.

•Δ 1:00-4:00 PM - "Coming Home to our Bodies," a movement workshop for survivors of physical and sexual abuse. Belfast Dance Studio. Workshop is open to both men and women, led by Ellen Oak. Call New Hope for Women, (207) 594-2128 or (207) 338-6569 to register. No charge for workshop. Enrollment limited to 40 participants.

ΔΔ 1:00 PM 'Ish' - Out Among Friends, a Portland based women's support group, hosts a hike/walk activity. All women welcome, FMI, call (207) 846-5233.

Monday, April 24:

•Δ 8:00 PM - Seacoast Gay Men presents "Sharing Our Talents" an evening of entertainment to benefit AIDS Response Seacoast. UU Church, State St., Portsmouth. \$5 donation. FMI, Frank DeSarro (207) 439-8635.

Tuesday, April 25:

•Δ 6:15-8:30 PM - Women's Center in Belfast Discussion Series. Topic: "How sexuality affects working relationships." 9A Main Street, 2nd floor, Belfast. FMI, 338-1429.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM, (ME.), 8:30-9:30 PM, (N-B) - Gay & Lesbian AA Meeting at NLN's Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, (207) 498-2088.

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - The Gathering, USM Campus Center, Portland. Topic: "Working with the public school to implement AIDS education: A personal account of the 5 year journey in Old Orchard Beach." FMI-774-4919.

Wednesday, April 26:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM (ME.), 8:00-10:00 PM (N-B) - Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center Drop-In and Open House, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI (207) 498-2088.

Thursday, April 27:

ΔΔ 7:30-9:00 PM - Matlovich Has A Makeover, with Ferrante and other Portland Divas showing how it's done. Join us for a "backstage" look at drag performance as we discuss the whys and wherefores of drag. Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Accessible to mobility impaired; free hotel parking.

ΔΔ 8:30 PM - Yagottawanna, acappella trio, appearing at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Tix-\$3. FMI, (207) 772-JOYY.

Saturday, April 29:

•Δ 7:00 PM - "Take Back the Night Rally & March" sponsored by Greater Portland NOW, The Family Crisis Shelter and the Rape Crisis Center, Inc. Monument Square. Featuring several speakers and an opportunity for audience speak outs, a women's march through downtown Portland and a vigil for men in support of Take Back the Night. FMI, Anne Marie at (207) 799-9020.

ΔΔ 9:00 PM-Midnight - Chem Free/Smoke Free Spring Dance sponsored by The Portland Round Up as a fund-raiser for The Portland Round Up's 11th Annual Labor Day Conference for Sober Lesbians & Gay Men. Coffee & water on the house, donations of soda and snacks welcome. Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. \$2 donation.

Sunday, April 30:

ΔΔ AM - Time Out's First Spring Bike Ride. Begins in downtown Ogunquit along the shore road to York and back with a stop atop Mr. Agamenticus. Not a novice ride, but beginners can take slower pace. FMI, (207) 871-9940.

•Δ 9:00 AM-1:00 PM - Self defense workshop for women sponsored by Rape Crisis Center. Workshop leader and black belt Karate instructor, Lauretta Gregoire will cover awareness, safety and risk reduction. Pre-reg. \$25, at the door \$35. Scholarships available. FMI or to register, call (207) 799-9020.

MAY, 1995

Tuesday, May 2:

•Δ 2:00 PM - PUBLIC HEARING on Referendum Bill LD 310, the initiated bill on the referendum. Augusta Civic Center. Show your opposition to Concerned Maine Families "pro-discrimination" referendum. Come and bring 5 friends, family members or co-workers. FMI, Karen Geraghty at 1-800-55-MLGPA.

•Δ 6:30 PM - Post Hearing Reception at the Comfort Inn in Augusta to network and socialize with other people and organizations opposing the referendum. FMI, Karen Geraghty at 1-800-55-MLGPA.

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - The Gathering, Coffee House with Erika Gilbert, Cathy Poole and Kate Austin and Yagottawanna. Catered by Begelworks & Green Mountain Coffee. USM Campus Center, Portland. FMI, 774-4919.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM, (ME.), 8:30-9:30 PM, (N-B) - Gay & Lesbian AA Meeting at NLN's Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, (207) 498-2088.

Wednesday, May 3:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM (ME.), 8:00-10:00 PM (N-B) - Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center Drop-In and Open House, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI (207) 498-2088.

Thursday, May 4:

ΔΔ 8:30 PM - Lynne Deeves, Val Bennett, Erika Gilbert perform at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Tix-\$3. FMI, call (207) 772-JOYY.

Friday, May 5:

ΔΔ 8:00 PM (ME.), 9:00 PM (N-B) - Film night at Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. "Serving in Silence," the story of Col. Margaret Cammermeyer, will be shown. Free admission. Free popcorn. BYO beverage. FMI, call (207) 498-2088.

Saturday, May 6:

ΔΔ 10:00 AM-12:30 PM - "Constructing our Visibility" workshop for community service groups. Unitarian Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. FMI, (207) 871-9940.

ΔΔ Day long workshop: "Growing Up Gay" sponsored by Out on MDI and College of the Atlantic is a one day workshop for and about gay, lesbian and bi teens, their friends and family. Topics include safer sex, coming out, accepting your gay child or parent, and teen suicide. Write to Out on MDI, PO Box 367, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679-0367 or call (207) 288-2502 and leave message.

ΔΔ 12:noon-5:00 PM - Northeast Bisexual Community 2nd Annual Meeting, focusing on Empowerment and Outreach to Rural Bisexuals. Putney Friends Meeting House, Putney, VT. FMI, call Stephanie Berger (617) 666-3149 or Kirsten Isgro, (802) 658-9554.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM - Wild Iris presents Heather Bishop in concert. First Parish Church, 425 Congress St. Portland. Tickets \$13.50 advance, \$15 day of the show.

Sunday, May 7:

•Δ 11:00 AM-12:30 PM - Registration for Maine AIDS Walk '95. Cheverus High School, 267 Ocean Ave., Portland.

•Δ 12:30 PM - Opening ceremonies for the Maine AIDS Walk '95 at Cheverus High School, 267 Ocean Ave., Portland.

•Δ 1:00 PM - MAINE AIDS WALK '95 steps off from many locations across the state. Check with your local AIDS service organization for details.

ΔΔ 1:00 PM 'Ish' - Out Among Friends, a Portland based women's support group, sponsors a hike/walk activity. All women welcome. FMI, call (207) 846-5233.

Tuesday, May 9:

ΔΔ 7:00 PM - The Gathering, USM Campus Center, Portland. Topic: "Survivorship/Partnership: How does surviving incest affect relationships?" Anita Landino, presenter. FMI, 774-4919.

•Δ 7:00 PM - Portland area PFLAG at Woodfords Congregational Church. FMI, Rita-766-5158 or Sue-774-3441.

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM, (ME.), 8:30-9:30 PM, (N-B) - Gay & Lesbian AA Meeting at NLN's Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, (207) 498-2088.

Wednesday, May 10:

•Δ 6:15-8:30 PM - Women's Center in Belfast Discussion Series. Topic: "Mothers and daughters: acknowledging the connection." 9A Main St., 2nd floor, Belfast. FMI, 338-1429.

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM (ME.), 8:00-10:00 PM (N-B) - Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center Drop-In and Open House, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI (207) 498-2088.

Thursday, May 11:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM - Matlovich Society 4th Anniversary celebration with special guest speaker Elizabeth Birch from The Human Rights Campaign Fund, Washington, DC. Birch took the reigns of HRCF during the wake of the November elections. Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland. Accessible to mobility impaired; free hotel parking.

ΔΔ 8:30 PM - Darien Brahms performing at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Come, check out the house band. Tix-\$3. FMI, (207) 772-JOYY.

Saturday, May 13:

•Δ 10:00 AM-3:00 PM - PFLAG Northeast Regional Conference, Nashua, NH, Pilgrim Congregational Church. Speakers Karen Harbeck (Lawyer & Teacher) on legislative & youth issues, Jan Platner (Exec. Dir. GLAD) on the status of an equal rights marriage law and the work being done to lay the foundations for passage of this law in Hawaii. FMI, write Nora Tuthill, 18 Hobbs Rd. Kensington, NH 03833.

•Δ 3:00-5:00 PM - Gulf of Maine Books

Classified Advertising

Saturday afternoon book series presents Cris Newport, author of "Sparks Might Fly" and Karen Saum, author of "Murder is Germane," "Murder Is Relative," and "Murder is Material," both published by New Victoria Publishers. 134 Maine St., Brunswick. (207) 729-5083.

ΔΔ 8:00 PM-Midnight - Women's Country Hoedown sponsored by Out and About, a Portsmouth based lesbian organization. DJ Dee Greenberg will teach line dancing and later there will be a choice of regular dance music. The United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave. \$6 at the door. Smoke/Chem free, 50/50 raffle, refreshments, snacks.

ΔΔ 8:30-11:00 PM - Contra Dance-Gender-role free dancing sponsored by Building Inclusive Community of Auburn. Chris Ricciotti of Lavendar Country & Folk Dances is the Caller. Unitarian Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. \$3-\$5 sliding scale. No one will be turned away.

Sunday, May 14:

ΔΔ 3:00 PM (ME.), 4:00 (N-B) - Northern Lambda Nord's monthly meeting at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, (207) 498-2088.

Tuesday, May 16:

ΔΔ 7:30-8:30 PM, (ME.), 8:30-9:30 PM, (N-B) - Gay & Lesbian AA Meeting at NLN's Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI, (207) 498-2088.

Wednesday, May 17:

•Δ 6:30-8:30 PM - Support group for adult female survivors of incest and/or child sexual abuse, offered by The Rape Crisis Center, free and confidential. Co-facilitated for eight consecutive Wednesday in Portland. FMI & to register, Anne Marie at (207) 774-3613.
ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM (ME.), 8:00-10:00 PM (N-B) - Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center Drop-In and Open House, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. FMI (207) 498-2088.

Thursday, May 18:

ΔΔ 8:30 PM - Kate Schrock with Dave Fields on drums and Ross on Bass, performing at CITI, 145 Kennebec St., Portland. Tix-\$3. FMI, (207) 772-JOYY.

Friday thru Sunday, May 19-21:

ΔΔ 6th Northeast Regional Conference on Bisexuality at Northeastern University, Boston, MA. Events include workshops, entertainers, erotic story telling, dance/party & more. Open to bi and bi-friendly people. FMI, Bisexual Resource Center, 95 Berkeley St., #613, Boston 02116.

Friday, May 19:

ΔΔ 7:00-9:00 PM (ME.), 8:00-10 PM (N-B) - Northern Lambda Nord sponsor Women's Night at the Gay-Lesbian-Bisexual Community Services Center, 398 So. Main St., Caribou. Smoke/Chem Free. FMI, Sheila-(207) 764-7838.

ΔΔ 7:30 PM - Building Inclusive Community of Auburn sponsors "Spirituality, Religion and the Gay Community" a panel of religious and secular leaders. Unitarian Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn. Free admission.

FOR RENT

ΔΔ 879-7684. A Portland apartment you can call home! Sunny, spacious, energy efficient. Remodeled. \$575 plus utilities. 2 bedrooms - 2 living rooms - washer/dryer hookup - off street parking. A must see! Ready and available for immediate occupancy. Walk to Old Port and E. Prom. (207) 879-7684. **ΔΔ Augusta area:** Male couple seeks roommate to share sunny, spacious, fun home. Easy interstate access to Portland, Brunswick, Freeport, L/A; convenient to Western/Central Maine. CATV, W/D, DW, off-street parking, large yard/garden, storage, many other benefits. \$250/month + 1/3 utilities. Call (207) 582-2725 FMI. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ BIDDEFORD: 2nd floor bright, sunny, 3 bedroom apartment (7 rooms), wall to wall carpeting, washer/dryer hookup, stove and refrigerator, ample storage, off street parking, private entrances, large outside porch. \$540 per month. Call (207) 282-9502 weekends or (617) 739-1798 Monday-Thursday evenings. Available May 1. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ SO. PORTLAND: 1 bedroom in Meetinghouse Hill area; sunny. Hardwood floors, large closets. Pet may be OK. \$425/+utilities. Available May 1st. Call (207) 767-0703. **ΔΔ**

TRAVEL/VACATION

ΔΔ LESBIAN PARADISE! 20 charming rooms, 100 mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, yummy breakfasts, peace and privacy. We're your perfect vacation choice year round! Week-long and midweek discounts. HIGHLANDS INN, Box 1180P, Bethlehem, NH 03574, (603) 869-3978. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ BACKPACKING, canoeing, X-country skiing, Native American cultural trips, youth trip. Wilderness skills and environmental awareness. Small groups. Great food. Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Maine, Quebec, Newfoundland. Contact: Earth Treks, Dept. C., RFD 2, Box 785, Thorndike, ME 04986. 1-800-589-4770.

ΔΔ YELLOW BIRCH FARM: Romantic, seasonal cottage or year round studio on working organic farm in Down east Maine, 20 minutes from Eastport. Absolute peace and quiet.

Saturday, May 20:

ΔΔ 9:00 AM-4:30 PM - Cancer Screening Clinic for Lesbians. The Lesbian Health Project of So. Maine will provide lesbian and lesbian-knowledgeable practitioners who will offer the following cancer screening services: pelvic and breast exam; pap smear; information; referral. Location: Tri-County Health Services, Lewiston. FMI or to schedule an appointment (207) 772-2699.

Sunday, May 21:

ΔΔ 1:00 PM 'ish' - Out Among Friends, a Portland based women's support

Beautiful, remote, unspoiled Cobscook Bay. B & B or weekly rental. Brochure, reservations: (207) 726-5807. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ SPECKLED MTN. RANCH: Located in Maine's White Mountain foothills. Come stay at our beautiful B & B and horse farm. We have two rooms available, with delicious vegetarian breakfast. Ride horses, hike, enjoy nature. Call (207) 836-2908. Bethel, Maine. **ΔΔ**

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION

ΔΔ The Rainbow Business & Professional Network has expanded its membership to welcome gay men and persons not necessarily business owners. We welcome dreamers and visionaries. We are in the process of developing a directory of gay/lesbian/bi owned or friendly businesses. We plan to conduct seminars on issues related to being a business & professional network. We also are planning to have social times together. FMI, call Vicky Zavasknik, (207) 775-0015 or Carolyn Jalbert, (207) 878-3755. **ΔΔ**

HELP WANTED

ΔΔ Part-time workers for gay-owned landscape company. You must be willing to get dirty and do moderate lifting. Must work in greater Portland. We work hard but also have fun. Experience helpful, but will train right people. Call Brad at (207) 773-4252. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ Part-time Appointment telemarketer to set appointments from company leads. Potential for \$20 per hour or more on commission basis. Engaging telephone manner and persistence required. Complete training. Perfect for the home-bound or someone unable to work full time. Call Brad at (207) 773-4252. **ΔΔ**

NH LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP FORMING

ΔΔ 30 week group for gay women, late 20's through 30's who want to bring their full selves into more satisfying, balanced relationships. Focus is on recognizing and "rewriting" relationship patterns in the context of a sometimes invalidating environment. Attention given to themes

of homophobia, vulnerability, trust, power, authenticity, and commitment. **PLACE:** Portsmouth, NH. **TIME:** Thursdays, 7:30-8:50 PM. Beginning May 4, 1995. **LEADER:** Susan Lager, MSW. **CALL:** (603) 431-7131 for more information. **ΔΔ**

PERSONALS

ΔΔ GWM, 26, intellectual, healthy, rugged, outdoors man, seeks man (19-35) who loves nature, animals, quiet nights, adventure and travel. Reply to: Box holder, RR 01, Box 57, Bradford, Maine 04410-9703. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ Small endowed? Short in stature? Like us? Tired of guys searching for only tall or well hung? Finally stories, advice and personals devoted to the small man and our admirers. 100's nationwide. SASE P O Box 610294, Bayside, NY 11361-0294. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ BWF, 18 years old, looking for a friendship, or that special someone. No drugs/smoke. Looking for a female around my age who likes to dance, watch movies, cuddle, and loves to love. Drop me a line! AMR, 32 Winter St., Lisbon, ME 04250. **ΔΔ**

MISCELLANEOUS

ΔΔ Battered Lesbian Project forming for W.I.L.D., Women Igniting Love and Diversity. Volunteers needed. Seeking to connect with battered and formerly battered lesbians to assess community needs and provide assistance. If your partner/lover is verbally, emotionally, or physically abusive to you, we can help you get free. All inquiries strictly confidential and all calls returned discretely. Call Gabriella at (207) 761-8138. If leaving message, specify full name and best time to return call. Or write to: W.I.L.D., c/o Community Pride Reporter, 142 High St., Suite #634, Portland, ME 04101. **ΔΔ**

ΔΔ Call for Papers: Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgendered People and Education. Deadline for optional proposals is May 1, 1995. Deadline for papers is September 1, 1995. To receive a Call for Papers contact: Harvard Educational Review, Gutman Library Suite 349, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge, MA 02138; phone (617) 495-3432; fax (617) 496-3584. **ΔΔ**

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Boston's Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Freedom Trail Wind Ensemble and Marching Band is always looking for new members. We need "blowers" and "bangers" (aka winds and percussion) and flag carriers and baton twirlers and 'band-aides' and supporters who don't do any of the above!

We rehearse every Tuesday at the Lesley Ellis School in Arlington, MA from 7:00-9:00 PM. This site may change as we move into marching season.) Call for direction and join us for Pride season! For more information, call Diane (617) 926-9730 or Jon (617) 423-7698.

group, sponsors a hike/walk activity. All women welcome. FMI, call (207) 846-5233.

Meeting dates & times for Maine Won't Discriminate can be found in the box on page 2 of each issue of CPR.

KEY TO CALENDAR

•Δ = not exclusively gay
ΔΔ = gay event/interest

COMMUNITY PRIDE RESOURCES

GENERAL

ML/GPA is a statewide, non-partisan organization formed to educate the general public, politicians, and media on L/G issues. Primary goals are to involve the L/G community in Maine's political process, promote civil rights, develop and review legislation, endorse candidates, build a coalition, and oppose anti-gay legislation and referenda. Meetings are the 3rd Saturday of every month in Augusta. FMI call 1-800-55-MLGPA.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Come and celebrate our children and friends just the way they are! (See listings for Maine & New Hampshire under PHONE SUPPORT and SUPPORT GROUPS.)

Northern Lambda Nord is an educational, informational, social, and service organization serving lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in northern Maine and New Brunswick. Meetings are 2nd Sunday of every month at 1 pm (ME), 2 pm (N-B), at the Gay-Lesbian Community Services Center, 398 S. Main St., Caribou, and can be reached every Wednesday by The Phoneline. Call 207/498-2088.

The Matlovich Society is an educational and cultural organization of lesbians, bisexuals, gay men, and friends committed to sharing our history as well as providing person-affirming presentations and discussions in a supportive environment. Meetings on the second and fourth Thursday every month at 7:30 pm at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St. Portland. Free parking and accessible to the mobility-impaired. Call 207/761-4380.

National Association of Social Workers, ME. Chapter, Sexual Minority Issues Committee welcomes new social work members. Our purpose is to educate, provide resources, and lobby legislators on issues involving sexual minorities in Maine. Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5 pm at the Community Counseling Ctr., 343 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call Perry Sutherland, 874-1030.

HATE CRIMES & BIAS INCIDENTS: Have you or someone you know been a victim? Call the Civil Rights Section of the Maine Department of the Attorney General -626-8844.

Building Inclusive Community: A group of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people working to build an inclusive and safe community in Lewiston-Auburn and outlying areas. We are exploring ways to achieve this goal through social gatherings, educational events, support groups, topic meetings and forums open to sexual minorities, friends and supporters. FMI, write POB 3184, Auburn, ME 04212-3184.

Citizens Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Rights (CAGLR), New Hampshire's oldest progressive gay/lesbian civil rights organization, welcomes all those interested in these goals to weekly meetings, programs, socials and various other events. Newsletter. Call Info-line (603) 224-1686 or write to PO Box 730, Concord, NH 03302-0730.

MUSIC & ART

Women In Harmony is an eclectic choral ensemble open to all women regardless of age, race, religion, or sexual orientation. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering organizational skills, send SASE (including your phone number) to

P.O. Box 7944, Portland, ME. 04112, or call 772-0013.

Maine Gay Men's Chorus is a community chorus which brings men together to enhance social tolerance and diversity in the Greater Portland area, as well as affirming the gay/lesbian experience with creative and lively musical entertainment. FMI call 883-8099 or write M.G.M.C., P.O. Box 10391, Portland, ME. 04104.

The Maine Gay Visual Artist's League will meet on the third Wednesday of every month. The League is a non-profit, creative support network for Maine's gay & lesbian visual artists community. For meeting place, call 775-3420.

PHONE SUPPORT

Region by region

National Center for Lesbian Rights Youth Project: 1-800-528-NCLR.

Boston Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Youth (BAGLY): 1-800-347-TEEN.

Portland:

The AIDS Line: 1-800-851-AIDS or 775-1267. HIV/AIDS related questions, call Mon.-Sat. 9 am-5 pm, Mon. & Wed. evenings until 7:30 pm. Anonymous.

DIAL KIDS: 774-TALK. For lesbian, gay, bi & questioning youth under 19 yrs.

Ingraham Volunteers: Call 774-HELP (774-4357).

The AIDS Project: 774-6877. Located at 22 Monument Sq., 5th floor, Portland 04101. Call for information and support group meetings in Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick.

Bangor: Eastern Maine AIDS Network: 990-3626

Belfast: Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: 338-1427

Brunswick: Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services: 725-4995

Bridgton: Community Task Force on AIDS: 583-6608

Rumford: Community AIDS Awareness Program: 823-4170

Lewiston: Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition: 786-4697

Waterville: Dayspring: 626-3432

Ellsworth: Down East AIDS Network: 667-3506

Oxford Hills: Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network: 743-7451.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG)

Contacts in Maine

(* indicates monthly meetings)

Augusta/Hallowell: 623-2349

*Bangor/Brewer: 989-5180

Brunswick/Bath: 729-0519

*Oakland: Steve, 465-3870

*Lewiston/Auburn: 783-9789

*Portland: Rita, 766-5158 or Sue, 774-3441

Waldoboro: 832-5859

Contacts in New Hampshire

P-FLAG NH 24 hour Helpline:

603/623-6023

Concord: Judy, 603/485-3943

Webster: Betsy, 603/746-3818

Manchester: Hans & Lin, 603/668-0741

Nashua: Nancy, 603/880-8709

Kensington: Nora/John, 603/772-3893

Stratham: Betty, 603/772-5196

Francetown: Cy/Gordon, 603/547-2545

Hanover: Shirley/Tom, 603/643-8331

Holderness: Olivia, 603/968-7254

Center Sandwich: Tish, 603/284-6434

SUPPORT GROUPS

Medical Support

Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic: Confidential screening and treatment for STD's

for residents and non-residents at a walk-in-clinic. Low cost, medicaid accepted. Anonymous, confidential HIV testing by appointment only. Clinic open Tues. & Thurs., 3:30 to 6 pm at Portland City Hall Room 303. FMI call 874-8784.

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England: Serving men and women, offering annual exams, pregnancy testing, birth control info. & supplies (free condoms!), testing and treatment for infections and STD's, menopause support and more. Evening hours, affordable services, and complete confidentiality. Medicaid welcome. 970 Forest Ave., Portland. FMI call 874-1095.

Identity Support

New Hampshire P-FLAG Meetings

Concord: Meets 3rd Sunday from 3-5 pm at 1st Congregational Church, Washington & North Main Streets. (use Washington St. entrance), FMI call 603/472-4944.

Seacoast: Meets 1st Tuesday from 7-9 pm at Stratham Community Church, Emory Lane, Stratham (1st right west of Rte 101 circle), FMI call 603/772-5196.

Monadnock Region: Meets 4th Monday from 7-8:30 pm at The Place to Go, 46 Concord St., Peterborough, FMI call 603/547-2545 or 603/623-6023.

Nashua: Meets 3rd Thursday at 7:30 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Church, Lowell & Canal Streets., FMI call 603/880-0910.

Plymouth: Meets first Sunday, 7-9 pm, Plymouth Congregational Church. FMI, call 603/968-7254 or 603/786-9812.

Upper Valley Region: Meets second Wednesday, 7 pm. Hanover. FMI, call 603/643-8331.

Maine P-FLAG Meetings

Portland: Meets 2nd Tuesday 7-9 PM at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St. FMI, 766-5158 or 774-3441.

Women's Center - Belfast - Weekly meetings, 9A Main St., 2nd floor (above Jaret & Cohn) FMI, 338-5702. Group meeting every Wednesday, 6:15 pm. Women's Spirituality Gatherings, Mondays 7-9 pm.

NA: Just for Today meetings every Wednesday, 8:15 pm, at St. Luke's Cathedral, State St., Portland. Use Park St. entrance in rear. Also Friday meeting, 8:00 pm, Immanuel Baptist Church, corner Deering & High St., Use entrance off Deering St.

Out and About is a nonprofit, lesbian (over 18) support and educational group. Newsletter & calendar of local, current monthly events. Meets Mondays at 7:00 pm. FMI, call 603/659-2139 or write POB 332, Portsmouth, NH 03802-0332.

Out Among Friends: Meets Thursdays 7-8:30 pm, in the downstairs club room of the Portland YWCA, 87 Spring St. Lesbian support/discussion group. Free or \$1 donation to help w/rent.

Out on MDI: For gays, lesbians, bi's and our friends. Very active social/support group. Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Newcomers always welcome. FMI, write OUT ON MDI, PO Box 367, Southwest Harbor, ME 04679-0367 or call (207) 288-2502 and leave a message.

Dignity, Etc.: Meets third Sunday at 5:15 pm at St. Luke's Cathedral (Emmanuel Chapel), Portland. All are welcome. Fellowship & potluck supper follow 5:15 pm service. We minister to the lesbian and gay community. FMI, write P.O. Box 8113, Portland 04104.

The Appollo Society: an out-reach, networking and social organization for New England's gay and lesbian atheists, free-

thinkers, ethical humanists and Hellenes. Free speech/civil rights advocacy group offering freedom-from-religion support, religious de-programming and fun! FMI, 773-5726 or P.O. Box 5301, Portland, ME 04101.

Community of Hope: A Christian congregation which claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all persons. Worship on Saturdays at 4:00 PM at Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., Portland. FMI write Community of Hope, Shawn Smith, Interim Pastor, POB 1671, Portland, ME 041014.

Lavender Womyn: Lesbian/bisexual women's discussion group. Meets Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm, First Universalist Church, Pleasant St., Auburn, ME. FMI, call 783-0461

Central Maine Gay Men's Support Group: Tuesdays from 7-8:30 pm. FMI call 622-1888 or 622-4254.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Pizza Get-Together: 1st and 3rd Fridays each month, 6:00 pm. First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland, ME. FMI, Larry Godfrey, (207) 594-2957.

Q-Squad: Support group for lesbian, gays, bisexuals, & transgendereds. Serving Franklin County, based at UM Farmington. FMI call and leave message, (207) 778-7380.

TransSupport Group: Meets regularly, providing confidential support, education and social activities for cross dressers, transsexuals, their families, friends, & others interested in gender dysphoria issues. FMI write TransSupport, P.O. Box 17622, Portland, 04112.

Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse: A support group for survivors of childhood abuse and/or sexual assault meets Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3 pm. Free, confidential, safe, facilitated. FMI and location call (207) 874-6593. Sponsored by USM's Womyn's Forum.

Maine Bisexual People's Network: Meets to affirm in all a positive nature of bisexuality and work toward greater acceptance in the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and straight communities. Support and referrals available. FMI write P.O. Box 10818, Portland, ME. 04104.

Wilde-Stein Club: Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm at Memorial Union, Sutton Lounge, UM at Orono.

Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group: Meets every Tuesday, 7-9 PM, at Women's Resource Center 101 Fernald Hall at UM Orono. FMI call (207) 581-1425.

Am Chofshi: A Maine Lesbian/Gay Jewish support group, meets monthly. FMI call Rheatha at 874-2970.

Seacoast Gay Men: Social group meets Mondays (except holidays), 7 pm Unitarian Universalist Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH. FMI call (603) 430-4052, or write P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03802-1394.

Lewiston/Auburn: A new gay, lesbian, bisexual support group for the Lewiston/Auburn area meets Mondays at 7 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Spring St., Auburn.

Bangor Lesbian Support Group: This Lesbian Support Group welcomes any woman who self-identifies as a lesbian. They seek to create woman-only, lesbian-positive space to explore issues and affirm themselves and each another as lesbians. Confidentiality, open-mindedness and respect are required. Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm, Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, 334 Harlow St., Bangor. FMI: (207) 947-5337.

Mountain Valley Men (MVM): A group of gay men of all ages in the western Maine, Eastern NH area who get together for pot luck dinners, hiking, canoeing, skiing and other activities. FMI, write to Box 36, Center Conway, NH 03813-0036 or call Paul at 207/925-1034.

"Let's Do Brunch": Potluck social gathering from 11:00 am-2:00 pm on the third Sunday of the month at a York County location. Meet new people, see old friends, exchange news and information. FMI, (207) 985-2784.

S.N.A.P.: Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests. Monthly support group for men & women healing from sexual abuse by clergy of any denomination. Meets in Portland location on third Friday of the month. FMI, call 207/774-5025.

Drop-In Lesbian Discussion Group: Meets Mondays, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm (except school vacations & holidays) at USM Campus Center, Room C, (next to the Computer Lab) Portland. Bring your lunch.

Parents

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Parents Group: Meeting in the Portland area. For dates, places and times write GLB Parents Group, P.O. Box 13, Augusta, Me 04332-0013.

Mothers and Kids Group: Social events and group support for lesbians and their children. Emphasis on inclusion of lesbians in the process of becoming pregnant or adopting. Meets monthly in the greater Portland area. FMI write: P.O. Box 2235, South Portland, ME 04116.

Gay Parenting Discussion Group: Meeting 2nd Monday of month in Bangor Hall, University College Campus in Bangor. We discuss parenting issues. Open to gay men and lesbians. FMI, call 862-2516.

Youth Support

OUTRIGHT TOO: Sundays, 6pm at Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, Harlow St., Bangor. Support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual youth ages 16-22. FMI, call 285-7180.

OUTRIGHT/Central Maine: Weekly, confidential meetings for gay, lesbian, & questioning youth 22 years and under. Call "First Call" at 795-6677 or 1-800-339-4042 and ask about OUTRIGHT.

OUTRIGHT/Portland: Meets every Friday from 7:30-9:30 pm at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. Safe and supportive discussions with and for gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning young people. FMI call 774-TALK, or 774-HELP or write to P.O. Box 5077, Portland, ME 04101.

OUTRIGHT/Seacoast: Meets every Friday from 7 to 9 pm at the Unitarian Church annex building adjacent to the fire station, 206 Court St., Portsmouth NH. FMI call Teenline at 1-800-639-6095 or write P.O. Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03801.

F.A.T.E. Fight AIDS-Transform Education: A project of ACT UP/Portland whose purpose is to demand better HIV/AIDS education and combat homophobia in all Maine public schools; to form empowering groups for teens by teens and to create a context in which pro-teen, pro-gay groups are able to change the educational policies in their individual school districts. Straight or gay, boy or girl, HIV+/-, black, brown or white. All welcome. FMI on who to contact or how to organize in your school district, contact F.A.T.E., PO Box 1931, Portland, ME 04104. Phone/fax 828-0566.

COLAGE: A national support group run by and for the children of gay, lesbian or bisexual parents. FMI, COLAGE, 2300 Market St., #165, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94114.

HIV Related Support Meetings

Portland:

Mondays: HIV negative partners of people living with HIV, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Tuesdays: People Living with HIV disease and all friends, families, lovers, and caregivers, 10:30 am-Noon.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays: Living Well focuses on quality of life and empowerment for those living with HIV/AIDS.

1st Wednesday: PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support), 5:30 pm. Call 775-PAWS. Charles Wynott, Program Coordinator.

Thursdays: Women Living with HIV meets from 1:15-2:45 pm. Men Living with HIV meets from 5:30-7 pm.

The above Portland support groups meet at The AIDS Project, 22 Monument Sq., 5th floor. Call Jane O'Rourke at 774-6877 or 1-800-851-2437 for more information.

Lewiston: Information & support meetings for People Living with HIV. Call 786-4697 FMI. AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn.

Brunswick: Meetings for family and friends who have loved ones with HIV/AIDS at Merrymeeting AIDS Support Services, 8 Lincoln Street. FMI on meeting days and times call Brian at 725-4955.

Gardiner: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays: People Living with HIV meets from 1:30-3 pm at the Physicians Building behind Kennebec Valley Regional Health Agency Annex. Call Brian Allen at MASS at 725-4955.

Rumford/Mexico Area: Mondays: AIDS Support Group/Phoneline meets from 7-8:30 pm at Mexico Congregational Church, Main Street, Mexico. Call 364-8603.

Androscoggin Valley AIDS Coalition: Thursdays: Support for people with HIV & their families. 7 pm, 70 Court St., 2nd floor, Auburn. FMI call 786-4697.

Maine AIDS Alliance

Member Organizations

AIDS Lodging House: P.O. Box 3820, Portland, ME 04101-3820, Call 874-1000.

AIDS Coalition of Lewiston-Auburn: P.O. Box 7977, Lewiston, ME 04243-7977. Call 786-4697.

Community AIDS Awareness Program: c/o Mexico Cong. Church/UCC, 43 Main St., Mexico, ME 04257. Call 364-8603.

Community Task Force on AIDS Educ.: P.O. Box 941, Naples, ME 04055. Call 583-6608.

Dayspring: 32 Winthrop St., Augusta, ME 04330. Call 626-3432.

Down East AIDS Network: 114 State St., Ellsworth, ME 04605. Call 667-3506.

Eastern Maine AIDS Network: P.O. Box 2038, Bangor, ME 04401. Call 990-3626.

Merrymeeting AIDS Support Serv.: P.O. Box 57, Brunswick, ME 04011-0057. Call 725-4955.

Names Project/Maine: P.O. Box 10248, Portland, ME 04104. Call 774-2198.

Oxford Hills Community AIDS Network: P.O. Box 113, Paris, ME 04271-0113. Call 743-7451.

Peabody House: 14 Orchard St., Portland, ME 04102. Call 774-6281.

People With AIDS Coalition of ME.: 696 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Call 773-8500.

Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS): 22 Monument Square, Portland ME 04101. Call 775-PAWS.

St. John Valley AIDS Task Force: c/o NMMC, 143 E. Main St., Fort Kent, ME 04743. Call 834-3355.

The AIDS Project: 22 Monument Sq., 5th fl., Portland, ME 04101. Call 774-6877.

Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition: P.O. Box 956, Belfast, ME 04915. Call 338-1427.

SAPPHO'S SISTERS

Celebrating our Diversity

λ July 1-7, 1995 λ

This conference creates a space where lesbian and bisexual women focus on our own growth in a safe, nurturing environment. In keeping with our goal of inclusivity, we welcome transgendered people who identify as lesbian or bisexual women.

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WHERE: Ferry Beach, a Unitarian Universalist camp and conference center on the beach in Saco, Maine.

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For more information, contact either of this summer's coordinators: Elaine Fadden - 508/797-0646 or Judy Tator - 607/432-7769, or call Ferry Beach Park Association at 207/282-4489.

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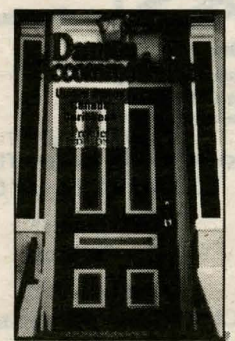
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Arts & Entertainment

Out on the Town



by Skip
Brushhaber

Spring is here I hear. Well according to the calendar anyway.

Plans are taking shape for "Pride Poetry and Prose" to be published with CPR's Pride edition in June.

So, all you writers and artists out there send us your work and see it in print. At the same time celebrate who we are as a community.

The guidelines are:

Fiction - 1500 words or less

Short stories or excerpts from larger works

Poetry - 70 lines or less

Black & white photography
Black & white artwork

We strongly encourage written submissions of poetry and prose be on Mac compatible disc. Any questions, contact the CPR office.

Deadline is May 22, 1995.

What's going on around town:

"Nunsense II-The Second Coming" at The Chocolate Church in Bath
"Entertaining Mr. Sloan" at the Oak Street Theater, Portland

"Under The Skin" at Madhorse Theater, Portland

"Collecting For A College" at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art.

Again, we want to hear from you, the reader, about A & E events in your area and we welcome book reviews and video reviews to be kept on file for future use. In addition, if there is a play or concert in your area you wish to review for CPR, call us. ΔΔ

Theatre Review: Lavender Land Utopia



by Ainsel
Ponti

Lavender Land Utopia, the latest play by Portland's only feminist theater

group, The Furies, once again magnifies the importance of supporting local arts, and shows us how much fun doing that can be.

Marilee Ryan, the playwright and director, mixes humor and political incorrectness in a way that's funny, yet gets you thinking about things, like stereotypes within our own community.

Lavender Land Utopia's recent stint at the Oak Street Theater will be revived for Portland Pride at an

unconfirmed location. So, if you missed it the first time around, try to catch it during Pride week. With eleven characters, you are sure to have a few favorites by the time the lights come back on.

This play, which actually was a musical, is about a war-torn land in which the only safe-haven for lesbians is in the "wasteland" at a bar bearing the play's title. There the women were immunized with the M.C.'s secret toxic-waste formula, and they left any sexual guilt at the door. In Lavender Land Utopia, sex and diversity are celebrated. "It's a spoof on the whole notion that lesbians would create a kind of utopia, and would it really be any more ideal and any less sexist than the society in which we already live," said Edie Hoffman, one of the Furies.

Hoffman, who made her theatrical debut in the Furies' last production, "I Guess My name is Scrooge," again had a stage presence that clearly shows she belongs there. In her role of The M.C., complete with a Marlene Dietrich type accent, Hoffman kept things moving and kept the audience in stitches with her facial expressions, off the cuff comments and her ease at being on stage. "I definitely feel more comfortable on the stage than I do in real-life," said Hoffman.

Joanna Amato's role of Laverne, complete with a wig that the B-52's would be proud to sport, was perhaps the most memorable. Laverne, a greasy-spoon waitress turned gun-toting revolutionary was hysterical without even speaking, with blazing fingernails and two-foot high hair. Add to that a Long Island/ Queens inspired accent, an excellent script and interactions with Shirl, her girlfriend and partner in dramatic hysteria. Shirl, played by Mahlia Carey, was equally dramatic and funny.

Let us not forget that this was a musical. The music, composed by Cathy Poole, and written by Poole and Ryan, added yet another layer of humor to Lavender Land. Numbers such as "Dis-honorable Discharge" and the show's theme song of sorts "Love is Sorta Sad," were well-crafted, yet wacky songs. Cathy Poole's keyboards, drumming, and guitar added an effective touch to the evening.

A somewhat smaller role, that of "Pam," played by Jane Martin, was made memorable by her "you have to hear it to believe it" delivery of lines and her character's questions such as, "Do you think I look sexy in my boots?"

Kristi Stotts, Connie Valliere, Michelle Gagnon, Marcia Dinger, Kate McIver, Tally Jefferson and Marina Mares made up the rest of the Lavender Land Players.

It was the hope of the Furies that Lavender Land Utopia would make you laugh and perhaps make you question

See LAVENDER, page 19

Book Review-Last Watch on the Night

by Skip Brushhaber

Gay poet and writer Paul Monette died from complications of the AIDS virus February 10, 1995. Monette had fought a valiant fight with the disease which is chronicled in his last book of essays, "Night," published by Harcourt Brace and Company.

This group of essays was written over a year and a half from 1992 through 1993. Having already buried two lovers, Monette was in the final stages of his dis-

ease when he wrote these powerful commentaries. The subjects range from his dog Puck to his friend Gert, who was the companion of Katherine Cornell, the first lady of the American Theater. This essay contains some great dish on those two icons of the silver screen, Garbo and Dietrich.

Monette's rage is unleashed at the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope for their homophobia and ignoring the AIDS crisis in "My Priests." He points out strongly that this hate and ignorance exists at a time when priests are being charged with molesting members of their flocks.

The essay "3275" takes the reader on a trek through cemeteries around the world. It is marvelous commentary on the beauty and history tied with our attitudes about death. Monette states he wants, "Died of Homophobia, Murdered by his Government" as his epitaph. He ends this essay by stating emphatically, "Grief is a sword, or it is nothing".

In "The Politics of Silence," Monette takes on religious fundamentalism everywhere. His criticism is especially strong toward Reagan, Bush, and Clinton's reluctance to do anything about AIDS and sucking up to the religious right.

"Mustering" talks about the most recent gay/lesbian march on Washington. Monette was too sick to be an active participant, although he was in Washington. Again Monette criticizes the Clinton Administration and the empty, unfulfilled promises made to the gay/lesbian community. He ends by reminding us, "There is no America without you."

"A One Way Fare" speaks of Monette's love of travel and about a man coming to terms with his mortality.

The essay "Getting Covered" is about the struggle to be a writer. Monette waxes eloquently about critics, call-in radio shows, the media, and again, homophobic fundamentalists. It speaks about

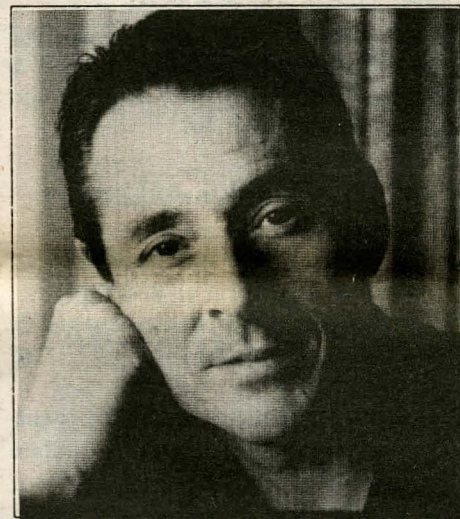


Photo by T.L. Litt

Paul Monette, 1945-1995

the great loss to American culture caused by AIDS. This essay also explains a controversy which Monette was involved in with Newsweek a couple of years ago. Monette vindicates himself of any wrong doing.

"Sleeping Under a Tree" tackles insomnia. Monette uses his own sleep deprivation to unleash a rage toward everything from the American Family to the "Nazi All-Stars": Falwell, Robertson, and Sheldon. He also takes on the New Age, Dan Quayle, and the Pope.

In "Mortal Things," Monette relates an experience in childhood of saving bottle caps for months to be used at an auction. The young Paul Monette comes woefully short with his one hundred fifty-seven. Monette goes on to write about his love of books and their value in his life.

Paul Monette was a powerful and beautiful writer. His words calm, ignite, dismay and offer hope to the reader. This collection is not always easy to get through, but it is empowering if the reader preserves.

Paul Monette wrote three collections of poems and six novels. Also important are his other works of nonfiction, "Borrowed Time, an AIDS Memoir" and "Becoming a Man; Half a Life Story." ΔΔ



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Artist Profile: Nan Goldin - Photographs from the heart

by Bruce Balboni

I first saw Nan at the Other Side, Boston's premier gay bar of the 1970s. She was with David and Tommy, all three dressed in black. We soon became friends and have been ever since. She was taking pictures then and over the years it was easy to forget her camera because Nan never did much before taking a picture. Her camera was like an extension of her arm and a part of our everyday lives. Roommates, friends and lovers — the party moved from Boston to Provincetown to New York and then scattered. Nan now belongs to the world.

She has six published books of her photography. These include, "The Ballad of Sexual Dependency," published by Aperture, "The Other Side," and, "A Double Life," both published by SCALO. Her slide show, "The Ballad of Sexual Dependency," which led to her first book, has been seen in museums and galleries from Japan to Berlin to Mexico and, last week, to Portland, Maine. Nan was in town working on a film, a project with the BBC about her life. Because of our friendship, and her concern, she agreed to do a slide/lecture at the Maine College of Art. She donated her entire honorarium to the Community Pride Reporter.

Nan's generosity is in keeping with her life-long devotion to her art. As she explained to the rapt audience at MECA she considers her photos, "a caress" — images of friends taken in a loving way. Nan drew a distinction between her and Diane Arbus saying that Arbus meant to expose and in so doing risked humiliating her subject. Nan said she wanted to show what was real, but insisted you could do that without that sense of "exposing."

Nan has had her tragedies. Her sister committed suicide and as she has said, her family was not one that prized girls. She has fought all her life to establish her own identity, to define herself, and in so doing, she has held to high principles with fierce determination and great integrity.



Balboni Photo

Nan Goldin in Portland last week making a film for the BBC. She did a fund raiser for CPR.

I thought I could write this profile without really interviewing Nan. An interview seemed too phony for us, but I find myself bombarded with memories and feelings that are hard to sort out. I've had to refer to the introductions to her books in which she writes about herself. In so doing, I allow her to speak for herself.

In her first book, "The Ballad of Sexual Dependency," 1986, she writes that her photos are the diaries that she lets people read. And so I remember that Nan is a diarist. But just as with her picture taking, her diary writing is so unobtrusive and so much a part of her that it goes unnoticed. (I hope I'm not around when they're published.)

Nan deals directly with a charge that is often leveled at photographers and at her in particular — that she is a voyeur. Someone will always ask her at her slide/lecture, "Do you really know these people?" I think this charge is so popular because most photographers are indeed voyeurs. Nan is not. The photographs are of her life. A life that she lives in. She doesn't visit this life and then go home to the penthouse or the suburbs. Those who photograph the homeless, the poor, people of color, the sick and dying, must feel some

guilt because they are stealing images from a world that is not theirs. This is not true of Nan's work. She is her work.

Nan writes that her work is about the nature of relationships, the need to couple, the difficulty in doing so and "the struggle between autonomy and dependency." In the 80s she was involved with a man for a few years who battered her severely. She writes about the obsession of that relationship, the need to be together, but the undeniability of the forces that divided them. After the battering and a long time of not seeing the man she ran into him on the street. She writes, "We said hello. I looked into his eyes. Later I was able for the first time to remember my real desire for this man and I understood how intense that bond was. Despite all the destruction, I could still crave that love. I had to face the irreconcilable loss."

A sense of loss runs through Nan's work. A sense of loss is experienced by many of us who view her work. We have the image to remind us, to provide us with the palette for remembering, but the emotions triggered by recall can serve to underline the loss — the loss of a time, a place, a scene, a special feeling of shared excitement, that awareness — so highly charged — that what is happening is so cool, so great, you just can't stand it, and then, of course, that real loss of people, especially difficult if you actually know them, but often Nan's friends can represent someone else and in so doing her images travel from the intensely personal to the universal.

One of the defining losses of Nan's life happened early and, though tragic, may have helped liberate her. Nan was eleven when her sister, Barbara Holly Goldin, committed suicide. Nan writes, "I was very close to my sister and aware of some of the forces that led her to choose suicide. I saw the role that her sexuality and its repression played in her destruction. Because of the times, the early sixties, women who were angry and sexual were frightening, outside the range of acceptable behavior, beyond control. By the time she was eighteen, she saw that her only way to get out was to lie down on the tracks of the commuter train outside of Washington, D.C. It was an act of immense will."

Nan tells us that in the week following the suicide she was seduced by an older man. She felt guilt, but also the obsession of her desire. She writes, "My awareness

of the power of sexuality was defined by these two events. Exploring and understanding the permutations of this power motivates my life and my work."

Barbara's psychiatrist predicted that Nan would also commit suicide by the time she was eighteen. Nan knew she had to leave to survive. She ran away at age 14.

Nan started to take photographs when she was 18. She writes that her obsession with taking pictures and writing a diary has to do with capturing and preserving "real memory," particularly that of her sister. She concludes these introductory remarks by writing, "I don't ever want to be susceptible to anyone else's version of my history. I don't ever want to lose the real memory of anyone again." She dedicated this book to, "the real memory of my sister, Barbara Holly Goldin."

Her next book, "The Other Side," published in 1993 is, as Nan writes in the Introduction, "... a book about beauty. And about my love for my friends." This book is a collection of photographs of drag queens and transsexuals from Nan's early days in Boston, in the 1970s, through New York and Berlin and Asia, to the present. In reference to her obsession with queens Nan writes, "During that time (the 70s) I looked in the library for anything written about women who fall in love with drag queens. I found one chapter in an abnormal psychology book from the 1950s which said that we are so perverse as to be unclassifiable."

These photos are simply beautiful. Nan writes movingly in the intro about her love, respect and admiration for these friends. She states, "The pictures in this book are not of people suffering gender dysphoria, but rather expressing gender euphoria. This book is about new possi-

See GOLDIN, page 20

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"Drawn to their rhythm"- Sarah McLachlan and Paula Cole play The State

by Almsel Ponti

It's nice to be able to write a review when I can honestly say that the opening act was excellent. Not since seeing the Indigo Girls open for R.E.M. in 1989, have I been more impressed. I am referring to the evening of March 20 at The State Theater.

So, I need to rant and rave about Paula Cole for a spell. Like McLachlan, Cole is 26, and her music is compelling, intimate, and powerful. Peter Gabriel knew all this when he asked Cole to accompany him on his recent WOMAD tour, not as the opening act, but as his duet partner. With an honesty not unlike the music of Tori Amos, Cole writes about anger and pain intertwined with humor and irony. Her album "Harbinger," although lacking the intensity of her live show, does what she hopes music should do, "Music should be like a ride that takes you down a river. That's what I aspire to," says Cole.

The audience clearly loved Paula Cole. From her stretched out, smoky vocals to her long black velvet dress and boots, she had us. "I wanted to be a cheerleader, but I injured my foot. I had to wear a hideous wooden shoe for a year, so I found a piano and started writing songs," she told us early on in the set. At one point Cole played her clarinet, explaining that being a nerd in band during school "re-

ally paid off." Then she stomped along to the beat on an old cookie tray with a microphone hooked up to it and banged on an empty container of joint compound, all the time laying down incredible vocals. And when somebody can do a Dolly Parton cover and bring the house down, you know they're good. Cole achieved this with "Jolene." Paula Cole-remember her name.

Sarah McLachlan was here last September as well as a few weeks ago. In fact, she's been on tour for about two years now off and on. Her music hits me like a ton of bricks while also calming some raw nerves. If you've never heard her before, perhaps you will embrace her music, which is contained on several releases.

At 26, McLachlan has accomplished more, musically, than seems possible. A native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Sarah McLachlan ignores trends, does things her way, and has a rare passion for music. With her latest offering, "The Freedom Sessions," she gives us the seeds of some of 1994's "Fumbling Towards Ecstasy" music; stripped down, early recordings that have a life of their own.

McLachlan's musical journey began as a child. She has studied classical guitar for twelve years, and at 17 was in a band called "The October Game." Another Canadian band, MOEV, wanted her to sing



Photo by Brenda Amadon

Sarah on stage, singing her heart out.

for them. McLachlan said her parents "flipped out and said NO!" thinking she was too young. So, she went to art school for a year. But when something is meant to be, there's not much anyone can do to stop it. Today, she sells out about every venue she plays and was nominated for a Grammy.

The first album McLachlan recorded was in 1988, and it is called "Touch." I remember listening to this record in December of that year in a studio of the college radio station I was involved with. Not since Sinead O'Connor's 1987 album "The Lion and the Cobra" was I more struck and captivated with someone's music. The album sold very well in Canada; in fact, it went Gold, so McLachlan and her label, Nettwerk, an independent Canadian company, sent the recording of "Touch" to about every major label in the United States in search of distribution and a contract. Arista offered the best deal, and "Touch" was released in the USA in April of 1989. McLachlan told me during an interview in January of '89 that she had never written songs before and that this album was "a whole big experiment." She was 19 when this album was recorded, and says she really hadn't experienced a whole lot, yet this album contains some beautiful songs, including the title track, which is layers and layers of gorgeous vocal sounds. You can order from NETTWERK the single to the song "Steaming" and hear McLachlan's live recording of Peter Gabriel's "Solsbury Hill".

McLachlan's audience grew dramatically with the release of 1991's "So-

See SARAH, page 23

Theatre Review: "Entertaining Mr. Sloane"

Vintage Repertory Theatre

by Alexander Wallace

Joe Orton is the perfect illustration of why it is impossible to define 'Gay Art.' All of his plays were immensely successful, their genius was self-evident and their humor could only have come from a "gay sensitivity." Then he was bludgeoned to death by his lover, so I guess he could be called a gay artist. And very dead, 'way before his time. But his plays seldom deal with homosexuality, per se. It's always an element, it's always there, but the plays deal with larger issues, and if it was his 'gay nature' that made the plays great, so be it.

Such are the contretemps Orton deals with so beautifully and so hilariously. He takes the 'normal' situation: woman wants boy, woman gets boy, woman gets baby she don't want, and turns it so completely on its arse that you're not sure what was normal to start out with. Normal. Did he say normal? Well, in this play, man also wants boy, man gets boy, boy gets man and it's the same boy the man's sister wanted and got. So 'normal' would confound a Baptist minister. And the characters are all so scuzzy to begin with! Low class English louts, aping their betters, greedy as Donald Trump with the morals of Mick Jagger. Aye, there's the rub.

Oscar Wilde, Orton's predecessor at this kind of thing once said, (beating Newt Gingrich to the punch by a hundred years) "Really, if the lower orders don't set us a good example, what on earth is the use of them? They seem, as a class, to have absolutely no sense of moral respon-

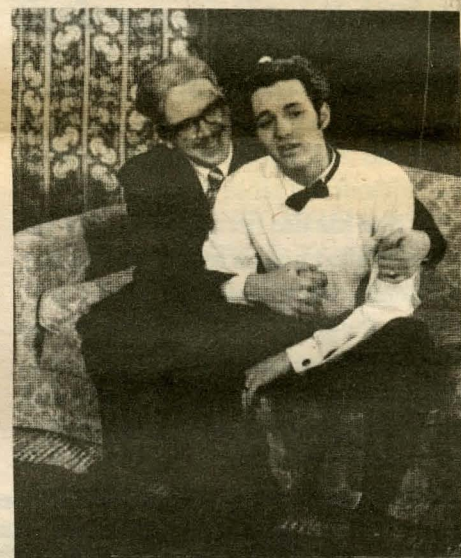
sibility.

Yes, Orton's plays, in their own perverse, very homosexual way, are about moral responsibility - not that of The Nobility - but of us common folk. For if we have no morals, what are we to expect of our leaders? And he sticks it to his audience with wild, catty, deliberate abandon.

Vintage Rep's production, under the direction of Company Artistic Director Jane Bergeron, scores every Ortonian point in the play. This is a great ensemble piece for four actors that rides on an innate sense of Orton's rhythms and speech patterns to score the meaning - there's not an extra word in the play - and Bergeron gives us every glittering morsel.

Heading the cast is Skip Emerson as Ed, a fast rising tycoon with a slipping toupee who's out to get his, at all costs. And he does get the boy, even if he has to share him, and the knowledge that the kid might stick a shiv through his ribs at any moment. Ed is often played as the quintessential D.O.M., and Orton can always be played totally on the surface and just as successfully. But Emerson gets deep inside Ed, where he grovels and sins and gives us a fully fleshed portrayal that's as frightening and funny as it is real. It's the best work of Emerson's I've seen.

Matching him is Elizabeth Guest as Kath, Ed's flustered, blustering disaster of a sister who winds up with the other half of the desirable young Mr. Sloane, and a baby she didn't want. Guest is a marvel: coquettish slumped to the floor, vixenish with her teeth out, blithely indifferent to murder, mayhem, and unwanted preg-



Skip Emerson as Ed, left, Jonathan Woodward as Sloane, right.

nancy. Standing, or tottering between these two venal siblings is Da-Da, Ed and Kath's seemingly senile old father. From the rip in the seat of his pants to taking his pills from a glass with Kath's teeth in it, Michael Bradshaw delivers a comic performance of epic proportions, while anchoring the play at the same time. It is the senile old fool who still has hold on his moral center.

Last, but certainly not least, the delicate morsel himself, Mr. Sloane, a sixties version of Kato Kaelin, the House guest from Hell. As played by the believably 17-year-old Jonathan Woodward, Mr. Sloane is a bleached blonde Elvis Presley with a Terrence Stamp accent. Already a murderer, this amoral young beauty, straight out of "A Clockwork Orange," stuns both Kath and Ed and then sits there while they self-destruct over him. Well, he also slithers, vamps, pouts, preens, and breaks hearts! Woodward has infinite de-

See MR. SLOAN, page 22

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The Whitney Biennial

by Bruce Balboni

The Whitney Museum of American Art, Madison Avenue at 75th Street in Manhattan, New York City, opened its 68th Biennial Exhibition, March 23. It will run until June 4, 1995.

The Whitney Biennial is the Museum's signature exhibition of the most significant developments in American art, film and video over the past two years. It is curated by Klaus Kertess, adjunct curator for drawings of the Whitney Museum. All of the Museum's galleries are devoted to the exhibition, which comprise painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, installation, film and video. Eighty-nine artists are included and, for the first time, artists from Canada and Mexico are represented.

I went to New York to see the opening of David Armstrong's photography at the Matthew Marks Gallery on Madison Avenue, and stayed that week to cover the protest by the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization (ILGO) of the St. Patrick's Day Parade (see photos p. ?), from which their group was barred, and to attend the opening of the Biennial. Several friends and acquaintances were in the Biennial this year. There was a feeling of celebration amongst us, and what was public became personal.

Nan Goldin, David Armstrong, Greer Lankton and Jim Jarmusch are old friends, and for David and Greer it was their first time in the Biennial. David's photography consists of black and white portraits of people he has known, worked with and loved and, though they are posed, there is an immediacy and a sense of interaction with the subjects.

His show at Matthew Marks has been a huge success — all the more rewarding for David because that work is a departure from his usual subject mat-



Artists David Armstrong and Greer Lankton

Balboni Photo

ter. He has sold 18 large format prints of landscapes and buildings taken in Europe while he worked in Berlin with Nan Goldin on their book of photography, "A Double Life."

Greer is a sculptor. I met her in the late 70s when she was a student at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. She was a pre-op transsexual then. She has lived as a woman for many years now. Her earlier work was soft sculptures, with figures inside of larger figures which could cascade out at her discretion. Her four pieces in the Biennial were characteristic busts with an attitude.

In 1989 at the Artists Space Gallery in New York City when the National Endowment for the Arts created a furor by withdrawing funding (they later restored it), Greer exhibited her sculpture of "Jesus Mary" — a smirking, effeminate Jesus with a red cross burned into his chest. Her sculpture in this show of Candy Darling has an open chest in which one sees Candy's heart, but next to that is Candy's dressing table.

Nan's entry consists of a solid wall

of color prints in a grid — all photos of friends in Japan. The images range from tattooed boys to sex workers to people at home. I find that I always see something new and previously unnoticed when I look at Nan's work — even when I've studied the photo before.

Jim Jarmusch, filmmaker, writer and director of *Stranger than Paradise*, *Down by Law*, *Mystery Train* and others entered a short film, entitled "Coffee and Cigarettes," starring Iggy Pop and Tom Waits. Waits appears in many of Jarmusch's films. Waits and Pop sat together in a coffee shop, talking nervously at first, then it got friendlier, but finally turned sour as Iggy left in a cloud of insecurity and self-doubt. The scenario was uncomfortably familiar.

Since the entire museum was devoted to the Biennial there are altogether too many artists and pieces to discuss here. Nevertheless, some of the more remarkable are worth noting — Nancy Rubins exhibited an enormous mass of 150 old mildew-smelling mattresses which hung from the ceiling. They were

LAVENDER, from page 16

certain ideals and constraints in the lesbian community. I think it certainly achieved this. Although I found the show to be too long, it was memorable, hysterical and certainly interesting. We aren't exposed to too much actual original work here in Portland.

You can catch a revival of the Furies first production "Intreat Me Not to Leave Thee," which features Hoffman and Amato, at the Oak Street Theater in May. The Furies, piloted by Marilee Ryan's scripts and vision, have an important and good thing going here in Maine. Support local arts.

held together with iron-banding and smeared with all kinds of cakes and desserts.

Nearby was a Cadillac hearse, cut in half and smeared with thick grease inside and out. The hearse was inside a cage over which were thousands of destroyed carburetors. The hearse rested on hundreds of crushed mufflers and tail pipes — artist, Nari Ward. On a different floor one could see an installation which consisted of a working mini-donut making factory.

Some of the more famous artists involved are Brice Marden, Richard Serra and Cy Twombly. This year's Biennial is a profound array of images and impressions. It took a few days to see it all, but the experience was well worth the aching legs.

One could get into a discussion of the meaning of modern art and where it is all going, but viewing each artist's work separately and allowing oneself to be drawn in, is a more satisfying way of dealing with what at first can be confounding. I must confess, however, that witnessing the success of friends is such fun that I may be a little biased. ΔΔ

See Biennial Photos, page 21

MGMC On Stage!: A Tribute to Opera, Operetta and Musical Theatre

Winnie Weir, Publishing Editor

It was bound to happen. Sooner or later any performing group gives a less than inspired performance and, in my opinion, the Maine Gay Men's Chorus' Tribute to Opera, Operetta and Musical Theatre of March 24-25 fell into that category. It might have been opening night jitters. I have a suspicion it was the program.

Opera does not generally appeal to me, so I have attempted to get past personal preference in this review. The program was a challenging one, with selections from Gilbert and Sullivan, Verdi and Puccini in the first set. My particular favorite was the Anvil Chorus, complete with two anvils being intoned at precisely the right moment. The chorus seemed to have some fun with this piece as did the audience. The remainder of the pieces were unremarkable.

As a former choral director, I was dismayed at the number of men who didn't know the words to many pieces. Yes, I do know there is a great deal of

music to be memorized, but if it can't be done, changes need to be made.

The second set, *A Night on Broadway*, featured excerpts from "West Side Story." Again, words were being lost, timing was off and the balcony scene with guest soloist Rhee Michelle and Neil Anderson left me (and others, judging from comments overheard as I left the auditorium) scratching my head. Heterosexist as it sounds, I was astounded to hear "Maria" sung with words intact, by a gay man to a heterosexual woman. Excuse me, but I see this every day. I expect gay/lesbian/bi/trans affirming material from MGMC, and I'm not alone in that expectation.

The Maritones followed the Intermission with Charles Grindle making his debut as the Maritones' Director. The Maritones segment was somewhat stilted and 'new director' jitters may have played a part in that. The selections were well-chosen, but again I had to notice the lips moving to a different, who knows what tune.

The Operetta, "Trial by Jury," by

Gilbert and Sullivan, was the redeeming portion of the evening. Even though a heterosexual theme was being portrayed, the bridesmaids and Edwin's other love (a male), for whom he leaves Angelina, was wonderfully funny and provided some much needed laughter.

The acoustics at the McCauley Performing Arts Center are terrible. It was difficult to hear the solos, particularly guest soloist, Rhee Michelle, whose voice is lovely.

All in all, I came away from the performance with a gut feeling that the chorus was not fully prepared and had not 'bought into' the program. It happens... and then we move on. ΔΔ

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bilities and transcendence. The people in these pictures are truly revolutionary; they are the real winners of the battle of the sexes because they have stepped out of the ring."

In her most recent book of photographs, she shares the spotlight with her life-long friend, David Armstrong. David, Nan and I lived together and were friends together for the past 21 years. David's and Nan's photo history parallels their lives together, so in this book many of the facing pages are photos of the same people, one by David the other by Nan.

They both wrote introductions to this book which are brief histories of their relationship. They each assured me that they wrote them away from each other, without telling the other what they would say. That makes it all the more interesting to read these short pieces to see how they approached their task so similarly. Incredibly, they end up with the same conclusion about their relationship — that of, as David writes, "an old married couple now who never have sex, at least not with each other."

The photos in this book are the most difficult for me because they do document an era gone and a group of friends thinned by the ravages of AIDS. The unprec-

edented format is extraordinary. The viewer gets to see the same subject from two complementary, but entirely different perspectives. 'Nan and David,' that phrase has become one word, it's simply wonderful to see them together, in their work, and, in their lives.

This past month or so has been an exciting time for me. Visiting New York for Nan's opening, then David's, then the Biennial and, most recently, Nan's visit to Portland. None of our relationships have been without their difficulties and separations, but it seems as if we have come full circle. Recovering not only from our addictions, but from the ghosts that haunt our past. A rare second chance is offered.

Maybe only an outsider could have known, but none of us knew, at least not while we were in the midst of it all, that Nan would succeed as fabulously as she has — but the struggles she has endured and the grace with which she lives her life makes her success all the more brilliant. I'm so proud of her.

(Other books include, "Desire by Numbers," with text by Klaus Kertess, published by Artspace, available through D.A.P. It is a collection of photos of Asian sex workers. And, "Cookie Mueller," a photo catalog published by Pace McGill.)

TAP's Spring For Life Art Auction

by D.O. Cook & C.J. Sullivan

This year is The AIDS Project's 10th year of operation, which is being commemorated by a series of events that began in January and continue until the end of November. CPR was present March 18 at the 9th annual *Spring For Life* art auction to benefit TAP and the people it serves.

Held at Holiday Inn by the Bay, the auction's appeal is a combination of good cause, commerce, and aesthetics, and obviously a fairly successful one as it attracted nearly 1,000 people and raised some \$73,000, \$65,500 of it by the sale of nearly 150 works of art.

And there was something for everyone: the food, drinks and service were excellent, there was enough variety in types of art to appeal to a spectrum of potential buyers, and there were lots of interesting and/or interestingly-attired people to stare at. Governor King and Mary Herman were in attendance in



Auction photo by DOC



Auction photo by DOC

what marked the first appearance by a Maine governor at the auction; Mr. King, however, has been a traditional presence at the auction even before his ascent to the seat of power.

The attractive auction catalog with a cover painting by Alfred C. Chadbourn, contained both biographical material and a quotable quote from each artist about their reasons for participating in the auction and/or their connection to HIV/AIDS. The most common sentiment was a desire to help fight AIDS and a sense of connectedness with people suffering from AIDS, a belief that we are "all in this together." Loss of a friend, relative, or loved one to AIDS was also a strong theme in the artists' reasons for their participation in the event.

Jacqueline Howett of Biddeford, who contributed "Social Structure, Theme 9," writes in her bio about the state of heterosexual AIDS consciousness and says, "Future survival means we cannot afford to take any superfluous, excess baggage along as previous generations carried." Another artist, Helen Damon of Cape Elizabeth observed, "The arts, above all, have suffered the greatest loss from AIDS." One of the simplest sentiments was expressed by Olga K-Pastuchiv of Richmond who wrote, "I am an artist, so this is how I can best support The AIDS Project."

It seems to us that some technical issues detracted from the event. First,

although a valiant attempt had been made to deploy the artwork attractively and in a manner that would allow bidders to evaluate it conveniently during the preview showing, the combination of poor lighting and crowding made it difficult to see (let alone evaluate) the works. A maze of partitioned entrances/exits forced art, spectators, and precariously balanced cocktails into uncomfortable proximity and resulted in a lot of claustrophobic milling around.

Second, although there was something called an "artist's reception," there were no artists in evidence and even auction officials were unable to locate any for your CPR reporters to interview. The whole point of an artists' reception is to let the buyers hobnob with the artists, which helps to create excitement and expectation and also gives serious bidders a chance to ask questions about particular works. This year's reception seemed like a missed opportunity.

In addition, at the silent auction, minimum bid increments of \$25 or even \$50 may have resulted in lower than necessary final bids. We've been to other non-profit art auctions and minimum bids are rarely ever set higher than \$5 or \$10, allowing bidders plenty of freedom to keep nudging up the price. Last, during the live auction, Tom Saturley, the auctioneer, seemed surprisingly willing to drop the minimum bid on a piece at the slightest indication that

See TAP, page 22

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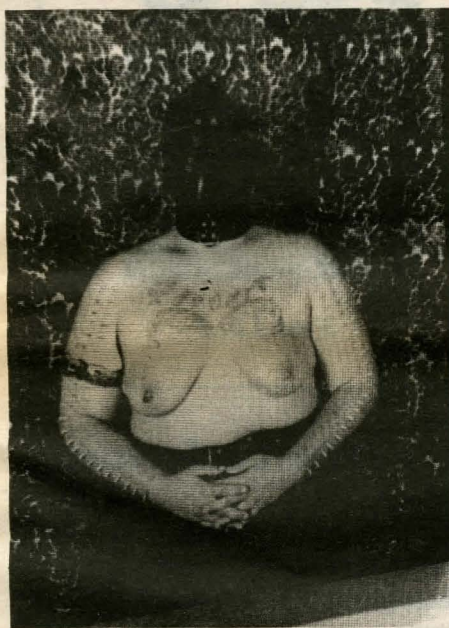
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More pictures from the Whitney Biennial

(See article, page 19)
Photos by Bruce Balboni



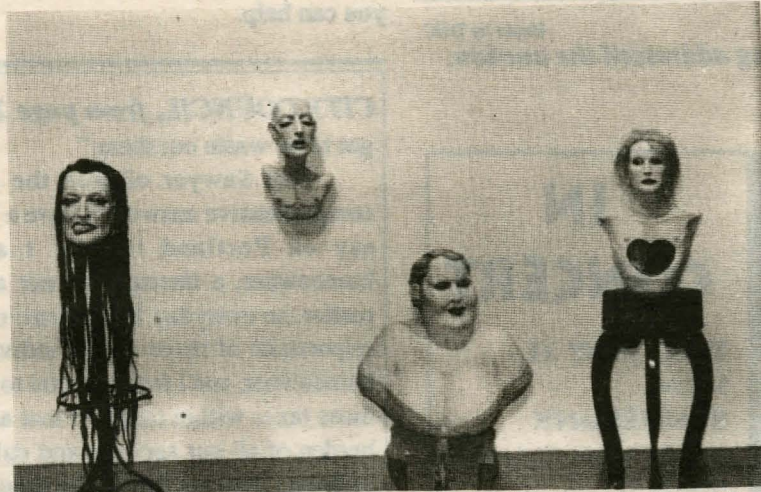
Closeup of Candy Darling by Greer Lankton.



Self-portrait/Perver, Catherine Opie



Tokyo Love by Nan Goldin



Hi, Hon; More Morphine; Blue Babe, and Candy Darling by Greer Lankton



David Armstrong's portraits are a highlight of the Biennial.

CITY COUNCIL, from page 4

ups. I asked all the candidates if they thought the changes made there were intentionally designed to end that colorful history.

Most evaded the question and talked about the environment. However, Keri Lord said, "People were concerned about it, no secret. We changed the traffic flow to stop the cutting through. We want to quiet the park and make it quiet and peaceful. It has moved to other neighborhoods, but I have to tell you that I don't like it (it = cruising) and it has nothing to do with whether you're gay or not. I think sex is a private thing and it does not belong in a public park. I would like to believe that this city is becoming more and more enlightened, so gay people can meet like the rest of us and not clandestinely like that. I don't think it's a nice way to meet people. It's not a good way for human beings to interact."

Tom Kane doesn't think gay men were targeted, but Bruce Webber said, "

It sounds like a homophobic reaction. If people are engaging in sexual activity there, the police should stop it, but if they are just meeting to go elsewhere then it should be OK. If there was a beach in Portland straight people could do that."

Tony Holt stated, "... but specifically about gay cruising — I would oppose government sponsored restriction, prohibition, ordinance or anything of that sort which was specifically directed at curbing an activity of a specific population that was otherwise totally legal. There's nothing illegal about what gay men do. Men and women do it all the time. To single them out and make rules and regulations and ordinances specifically directed at curbing an activity that heterosexuals do all the time and every place is wrong, just plain wrong."

Dan Foster, the only openly gay candidate in the City Council race, refused to discuss this issue.

All the candidates were sorry to see the Deering Oaks Festival go, except Keri Lord. She said, "I won't miss it. I have always thought that the Festival



Dan Foster

was too large and that the rides were bad for the park. It was abusive to the park. If they can't change it, then I'm glad it's gone. I'd like to see a gentler festival and see the park used more frequently. In fact, we're planning an event called the Portland Picnic with games, and people will play tennis and bring lunches and meet their neighbors. People will play music — what you're supposed to do in a park, swing on the swings, roller skate."

Dan Foster said, "If I want to mention anything about the Oaks, it's that we gave something away to South Port-

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land again. It's just amazing (laughter), a little bit of stomped on grass and people give a tradition away to the parking lot of the Maine Mall — it's just amazing."

Everyone said that the tax situation was unfair, burdensome, regressive and, in Tony Holt's words, "shameful." Dan Foster said, "We haven't had a tax rate increase in Portland in 4 years. I still think the issue is that we need to get more money from the state for education if we plan to cut taxes, or at least not raise them. Also, you always can look for waste, no matter what. I'm Food Service Director at a nursing home, and when they tell me I have to make cuts, I find creative ways to do it without hurting anyone, I don't change food quality when I make cuts. That's an example of how I operate. You can always find ways to make cuts through eliminating wasteful spending. There's

CITY COUNCIL, see page 22

TAP from page 20

bidding was slack. With 150 pieces of art to sell, it seems pretty clear that an average price in excess of \$650 would have been necessary to reach \$100,000 or \$10,000 for every year of TAP's existence. By the halfway point, very few pieces had sold for more than \$500. Mr. Saturley, who did a very professional and workmanlike job (and was also great fun to listen to) probably felt that, with 150 works in the time allotted, there was simply no way to spend the needed time on each work to get its top dollar.

In spite of the aforementioned problems, there is no question that we all had a great time and that the sense of community action and common purpose was alive and well at the 9th Annual Spring For Life Auction. $\Delta\Delta$



Photo by DOC
Gov. King addressed the auction.

TAP plans move in July

Deborah Shields, Executive Director, announced, April 18, that The AIDS Project will be moving to the 6th floor of 142 High Street by July 15th. She said, "We're so happy to be neighbors of the Community Pride Reporter." She added that they had run out of space in their current location and they would have more room for support groups at the new address. She said TAP plans a fall house warming party. Shields concluded, "We'd love to have help with the move. We also need donations of office furniture." Call TAP at 207/774-6877 if you can help.



Deborah Shields, Executive Director of TAP

CITY COUNCIL, from page 21

got to be waste out there." Nan Sawyer offered the most comprehensive answer, "I have a lot to say on Portland taxes. I am a homeowner, a business owner and a realtor, so everyday I am aware of the importance of taxes on the individual homeowner, and I feel it is vital to keep those taxes within range so that all the burden of all our services and cultural offerings does not fall on the shoulders of the individual homeowners. I have 4 ways to do that: 1. Monitor how we are spending our money. 2. Attract business to broaden the tax base. 3. Look to our suburban neighbors who use our city for cultural centers, social services and businesses. And 4. We need to be heard better in Augusta so

that Portland does not get short-changed. We need to get the school funding formula fairer for Portland. There's no question that it's not fair."

All the regular polling places will be open for voting, May 2, 1995, from 6 am to 8 pm. $\Delta\Delta$



Keri Lord

Unity College organization calls for conference

UNITY: With the fast approaching referendum to legalize discrimination against homosexuals, those of us in the Unity College group Outreach: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Educational Support Group, decided that it was time we tried to unify the gay, lesbian, bi and transgender groups of Maine's secondary educational institutions.

What we envision is a conference to discuss the issues important to secondary educational students. We would like to embrace issues that affect us today as well as in our futures. It would encompass the idea of education for our-

selves and the larger community. Our goal is for this to be the first of such conferences growing out of a strong student coalition.

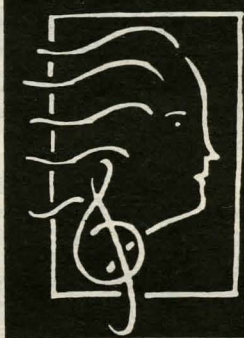
We would like to have organization take place over the summer and place the conference held as soon as possible in the 1995-96 school year. We welcome responses from individuals as well as school groups. Please write:

Jennifer Day, RFD #1, Box 3320, Frankfort, ME 04438 or

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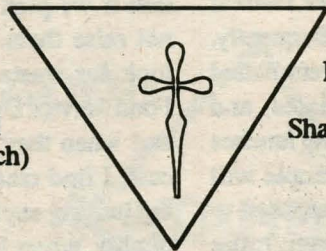
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SLOANE from page 18

grees of innocence to play and he plays them like a cat with nine lives until you absolutely believe he cannot possibly have killed Da-Da right before your very eyes! Woodward has a great future if he can avoid being cast as Elvis any time soon.

Again, as with "Ghosts," production values were consistent with performance. Rod Hoel provided a deliciously tacky lower class English living room and Jill Casey provided costumes that would kill any nostalgia anyone might have for The Carnaby Street look.

Orton was taken from us far too early - he might have equaled Wilde and

Shaw: his early plays are just as good as any Coward. Fortunately, the plays live on. If we have to have 'Gay Art,' let it be Orton.

If you were unfortunate enough to have missed "Entertaining Mr. Sloane," don't make the same mistake twice! Vintage Rep is doing Tennessee William's "Cat On A Hot Tin Roof" next. If you think that it's a play about who gets the ole' plantation, you probably think Williams was straight, too!

For information about "Cat On A Hot Tin Roof", and next season's opener, "Kiss Of The Spider Woman", call 774-1376. $\Delta\Delta$

IN THESE TIMES: Living with homophobia



by David Smith

Since last summer, I have been writing about homophobia in our lives as lesbians and gay men. I have used many examples from my own life and will bring you up to date on my lawsuit in this issue. However, all of us at CPR would like the column to be more than just one person's view and experiences in dealing with homophobia in these turbulent, yet still hopeful times.

There ought to be many people who have had to deal with homophobia in their daily lives. With Carolyn Cosby and Concerned Maine Families attacking us so blatantly, the effects must be painful, distressing and very varied.

Write down your thoughts, feelings and experiences and submit them to the paper for publication. Many of you have also thought carefully about the origins of homophobia and tried to analyze the conditions and realities that move our enemies to hatred and violence. We could all benefit from your wisdom and experience. We would like you to contribute to the paper. Our plans for the future are to have this column continue with me writing several columns a year and readers writing the rest. Please give this some serious thought and submit columns to Publisher, Winnie Weir.

Now, on to my latest struggle in living with homophobia. I'm still trying to win my job back at the Connecticut State Department of Education. However, I have found out a great deal about the law while working with my attorney. One of the things that surprised me the most is that even though we have

a clearly written non-discrimination law in Connecticut, enforcement is difficult. The first roadblock is that although gay men and lesbians are protected as a class, they do not have a "private right of access." This "private right of access" allows individuals from other protected classes (gender, religion, race, national origin, etc.) to go directly into court to resolve their complaint. Only lesbians and gay men do not have that right!

So, I am forced to work through the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. They are a very slow moving organization with limited staff and limited understanding of homophobia. In fact, I originally thought that I could just file a complaint myself. But the offensive and hostile response I received from them led me to hire an attorney. So I am now waiting for them to assign an investigator.

I also thought I had another option in this suit. As a state employee, I do

have a "private right of access." However, closer reading of the law indicated that the remedies that the court could offer were again different for lesbians and gay men. Whereas other protected classes can obtain a remedy of reinstatement and back pay, the provision of the law that deals with homophobia says the court may remedy the situation by injunction or other means. So, if I won the case, I might just get a letter of apology!

I continue with this struggle in my daily life. What about you? Have homophobia and the virulent movement originating in the radical religious right affected you? Have you become more careful or more blatant? What are your fears, thoughts and concerns about homophobia in your community? We would love to hear from you. Please volunteer to write a column on your experiences *Living with homophobia in Maine*. Thanks. ΔΔ

SARAH, from page 18

lace" album. This album contains many extraordinary songs: "The Path of Thorns," "Drawn to the Rhythm" and "Lost" to name a few. "When you wake in the face of the blinding sun and you search only to find that heaven is a stranger place than what you've left behind," from "Drawn to the Rhythm," is a favorite line of mine. In April of '92, I finally got to see McLachlan play live at the Charles Street Theater in Boston. There was not an empty seat in the place, and barely a word spoken by anyone while she was playing. Her voice reaches out and slowly wraps itself around you like a silk vine. At this show she performed Billie Holiday's "Gloomy Sunday". In the simplest of terms, it was a "concert moment."

McLachlan's early 1994 release, "Fumbling Towards Ecstasy" expresses her personal growth, emotional whirlwinds and the musical genius that has been nurtured over the last few years.

The album's title is McLachlan's way of describing the process of stripping away the parts that keep one from achieving happiness and fulfillment.

The first track, "Possession" was written from the point of view of an obsessive fan's need to control someone he only knows through music. "I would be the one to hold you down- kiss you so hard, I'll take your breath away," wails McLachlan, with a driving beat behind her.

The track, "Hold On" was written by McLachlan after seeing the documen-

tary film "A Promise Kept." The film is about a woman whose fiancé finds out he has AIDS. "This track can also be found on the "No Alternative" compilation album, put out by the Red Hot organization with proceeds going to AIDS relief. McLachlan performed this song during her appearance at the recent LifeBeat benefit show in New York City. She also visited Cambodia and Thailand as a spokesperson for the charity organization, WORLD VISION. There she appeared in a documentary about the region, which is racked by AIDS and poverty.

McLachlan also touches on other subjects. Before performing the song "Plenty" she talked about an "amazing experience in self-deception." "I thought I'd be with you until my dying day," says the song.

The song "Wait," which McLachlan performed during the State show was also explained. "It's about losing your innocence and wondering where the hell it went."

One of the most powerful songs she sang that night was a new one. She, alone at her piano sang these words: "I'm pulled down by the undertow, I never thought I could feel so low." You could easily say that a lot of McLachlan's songs are about loss, pain and heartbreak and other 'downer' themes. She's well aware of this and is willing to laugh about it. There's one song she performs that brings us out of the melancholia. "Ice Cream" is a whimsical little love song: "Your love is better

than ice cream, it's better than anything else that I've tried."

Backed by an exceptional band, back-up singer, Camille Henderson, and an elegant light show, McLachlan's show was exceptional. My token criticism of the evening was that her enthusiasm has been tapped a little by being on tour for so long, and the September show was a bit fresher.

However, listening to her albums with a few candles around you is an intimate experience itself. So if you haven't seen her live, you can still come to understand why the scope of her listeners is diverse, her appeal wide, and her fans increasing with each release.

Pick up "Fumbling Towards Ecstasy" first, then work your way backwards. Songs such as "Good Enough," "Ice" and "Elsewhere" will most likely touch you in one way or another. "I believe this is heaven to no one else but me, and I'll defend it as long as I can be left here to linger if I choose to; would you try to understand?" asks McLachlan in "Elsewhere."

There's been some question about the singer's sexuality as some of her lyrics could be interpreted in certain ways. My answer to this question is the same one I try to apply to all musicians: It's the music that matters. . .

I think we all fumble towards ecstasy. Find yourself some Sarah CD's and Paula Cole's as well and enjoy the journey. ΔΔ

Lesbian Avengers Target Cameron

by Brian Kaufman

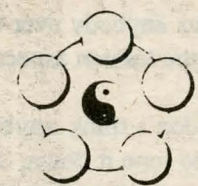
BOSTON - Paul Cameron, a virulent anti-gay crusader was confronted by a gay-supportive crowd of psychologists who overflowed a conference room where he presented research before the Eastern Psychological Association's annual meeting in the Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel. His research, under the auspices of his "Family Research Institute," distorted anecdotal survey data to claim that gay and lesbian teachers prey upon and recruit their pupils.

Cameron gained national attention a few years ago by insisting that the virus which causes AIDS is airborne, thus requiring the quarantine of all suspected homosexuals. The American Psychological Association, responding to unscientific research practices and claims made by Cameron in the past, has since censured and prohibited him from participating in their annual meetings, which attract a national audience.

As an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Maine at Farmington, I was one of many con-

cerned conference participants who discovered Cameron's listing in abstracts of the proceedings which were distributed several weeks prior to the conference. Dr. Murray Benimoff, Executive Officer of the Eastern Psychological Association, told this reporter that unlike APA, smaller regional conferences just don't have the legal resources to respond to the challenges which could have arisen if Cameron was denied access to the conference. According to Benimoff, "The program committee is responsible for selecting presenters for each conference. Had it been my deci-

See AVENGERS, page 28



Susan Reed, L.Ac.
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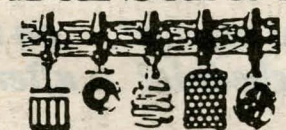
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SUZANNE SPEAKS from page 1

Suzanne: (SW) Here I am speaking to you from my beautiful home in the Detroit Airport.

CPR: How long have you been doing stand-up?

Suzanne: Four and a half years

CPR: How did you get started?

Suzanne: It's so hard. It's a long story. I was going to be an actress, an entertainer, and all that. I went to college and got a BFA in acting. I moved to New York and not much happened. I was working as a bartender and my girlfriend at the time signed me up for a comedy class. I went, but I didn't perform. I didn't think I was a comic. Then I thought if I was indeed going to be a comic, I wasn't going to be in the closet. I mean I'd been to ACT UP meetings and marched in the parades. I spent about a year after I took classes banging my head against the wall. Should I be out or should I be in? People said if I was out as a comic, I'd never get any jobs. I decided to go against their advice.

CPR: Has anybody ever told you to tone down the lesbian aspect of your act?

SW: I don't think anybody has ever told me to tone it down. Some of the talk shows on television, late night shows... I won't get on unless they perceive the world to change or I change. Even though comics who are incredibly

racist, homophobic, and misogynistic with incredible vulgarity in their acts get on all the time if they do a clean three minutes.

CPR: Who were your role models in comedy?

SW: Kate Clinton. Absolutely. I like most comics. I enjoy comedy. I'd also say Lily Tomlin, although she doesn't do stand-up. Probably when I first started I looked to people like Elaine Bosler, Paula Poundstone, and Ellen DeGeneres. And the Dennises, Dennis Leary and Dennis Miller.

CPR: What makes you laugh?

SW: Something good. Something original. Stuff from out in left field makes me laugh. I also tend to laugh at silly, but not like the Three Stooges.

CPR: I love the Three Stooges!

SW: It's a male thing. Guys do, girls don't. If you could figure that out, you could answer all the questions of life. I like silly humor. I also like dark humor. Things that you would never say on stage, we say backstage between us. Sort of borderline cruel stuff about disease and death.

CPR: What makes you cry?

Suzanne: Fear. The fear inside of me. Like why am I doing this? I should have stayed a bartender. I've been in the Detroit Airport for three hours. I miss my girlfriend.

CPR: You've been described as the fem glamour queen of lesbian comedy.

SW: Imagine! Oh, whatever blows your skirt up. I think the media, in order to make a flat picture come to life, jump into labels. So the person reading the article gets a certain picture. That is not how I would describe myself. We know what we are.

CPR: A few years ago your ad campaign had a picture of you wearing a towel. What was the response?

SW: I think it was mixed. When I did that two years ago a lot of people were really into it. They got it. A lesbian doing cheek was a little funky and wild. Trust me, you don't want to see me without the towel. I noticed afterward a lot of lesbian comics came out with glamour poses. Low cut and lipstick. I didn't think of it in terms of success. It was kinky, it made me laugh.

CPR: What's the best time you have had on the road?

SW: This is the worst time. Being stuck in an airport. The best time is when my girlfriend gets to come along. She makes me laugh hysterically.

CPR: Who is your dream date?

SW: My girlfriend. If she's not available... then Martina.

CPR: What would like to say to Newt Gingrich?

SW: Well we can't print that! My girlfriend described him as a gaping, flaming, commode hugging asshole. A pretty picture. I abhor him and his cronies—the Bob Doles, the Pat

Robertsons. Mean spirited, fat white boys. They hate us.

CPR: Where do you want to be in ten years?

SW: I want to be thinner. I want to be taller. Career wise, I'd like to have more power. Maybe television work. More power than women in Hollywood get. I have an agenda for [straight] people to see gay people in a positive and normal way. I'd like huge success so I have power to say, "Hey let's make a movie of Heather Has Two Mommies."

CPR: Have been approached about doing a TV pilot?

SW: That's what I have doing for the past five weeks. I leave Madison, Wisconsin tomorrow for LA to audition for a part. There are people writing who are writing stuff for me. That's going to be very tricky because the corporate heads don't think mainstream America is ready for a gay person to play a gay character. Whether they are right or not, nobody knows. It's going to take someone risking it. It's a crap shoot, but I do have all those things in the works.

CPR: You're appearing at Jonathan's May 12?

SW: Wait let me check. Yeah, that's right.

CPR: Have you played Maine before?

SW: I've never been in Maine. It's one of the last states I haven't been in. I want a rainbow flag at the airport. ΔΔ

Lesbian and gay business and professional organization formed

by Carolyn Jalbert

The Rainbow Business and Professional Organization is the grass roots business networking brainchild of Carolyn Jalbert and the late Donna D. Tennant, formed in October of 1994. Carolyn and Donna felt there was insufficient support for gay and lesbian community professionals and business owners. Portland has a Chamber of Commerce, so why couldn't we organize, support and promote our gay businesses and professionals? Do we know who we are? If we know who we are, we can then better support each other, increase our community visibility and become a resource to the community.

The organizational goals include sharing of gay owned business knowledge and supporting worthwhile efforts that would benefit not only members of the organization, but would serve to educate the community at large. Approximately 40 members strong, the organization has adopted a Mission Statement which says, "The focus of the Rainbow Business and Professional Organization is to support and network gay, lesbian and transgender businesses and professionals through education and cultural endeavors. Gender equality will be guaranteed."

Dues are \$15 per year and a donation of \$1 per meeting to help defray mailings, supplies and support related events. Meetings are scheduled every second Monday of the month at 6:30 PM. Their next meeting is May 8.

Many long and short term projects are already in progress. Raising money for the Donna D. Tennant Memorial Schol-

arship Fund to benefit gay and lesbian youth, offering a mentoring program for gay and lesbian youth, establishing a Maine lesbian and gay credit union, gay and lesbian SCORE, producing a Business and Professional Guide, hosting a gala Halloween Ball, Oktoberfest and a number of summer social events are among the exciting ideas already taking shape.

Efforts will be made to structure the Donna D. Tennant Memorial Scholarship Fund in a way that will encourage funding from large companies as well as private donations. Donations may be sent to the scholarship fund in care of Carolyn A. Jalbert, 305 Palmer Avenue, Portland, ME 04103.

Some meetings will be held at gay and lesbian owned restaurants with dinner and guest speakers. Business and Professional Show and Tell will be welcomed. Guest speakers and meeting programs will be established for all meeting dates. Check this newspaper for upcoming events.

Interested business owners and professionals who would like to attend meeting or inquire for more information, are welcome to contact any of the following members: Victoria C. Zavasnik, Leadership Team Chair - 207/775-0015; Carolyn A. Jalbert, Trustee of the Donna D. Tennant Memorial Scholarship Fund, 207/878-3755; Joy Knight, Task Coordinator, 207/797-5404; Al Nickerson, Membership Coordinator, 207/774-5882, or write Rainbow Business and Professional Organization, PO Box 9715-526, Portland, Maine 04104. ΔΔ

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The Pride Corner: Take caution

by Michael Rossetti

This year's Portland Pride celebration is Saturday, June 17. It will be like nothing held so far, and Bangor's Pride celebration will follow on July 8. In addition, by June most of Maine's universities and colleges will have had Awareness/Pride weeks. All will enhance gay and lesbian visibility at a time when negative focus is high on anything our community does which calls attention to it.

Security is playing a big part in the Portland celebration planning. We need volunteers to walk the buffer zone at the pier dance. We need traffic marshals, festival guards and parade facilitators. We need people to supply participants at all public events person to person advice on street safety. Yet all this security is only momentary compared to the concerns for the safety and security of those who are out or come out as a result of such events.

Along with encouraging visibility, comes the responsibility of providing safety and education to deal with the resultant homophobia, particularly this year, when statistics show that biased

crimes against gays and lesbians increases during anti-gay referendums.

Portland Pride's education campaign, "Visibility Works," and the UMO's Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian Concerns committee's "Safety Zone" project, two programs for community support and safety, crossed paths in early April.

Visibility Works has been holding bar parties which educate our most vulnerable group on reporting and avoiding biased crimes and homophobic assaults. Since March, parties have been held in Augusta, Bangor and Portland. Along with teaching safety through games and small talk, local biased crimes officers were present to acquaint the bar crowd with law enforcement efforts on our behalf. Attendance varied, but in every case, bar staff and regular patrons were educated and will provide a word of mouth source of knowledge should the need arise.

Visibility Works' second project is to strengthen Maine communities by focussing the energies of community service and social groups, and those who may wish to start one, on what succeeds



and grows such groups. Part I is an invitational workshop (although open to all who may contact the Pride Committee) on May 6 in Auburn, of representation from area groups who will put together a "success" list based on their experiences. The second part is a Saturday workshop at Symposium XXI, May 27, where the list will be discussed and related to building and maintaining community around specific parts of Maine.

At a presentation on Pride celebrations, the Pride Committee was impressed with the "Safe Zones" project at UMO, a project which according to Bob Coffee of the UMaine Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian Concerns Committee provides "a visual cue indicating that the space is demarcated as a 'safe space' for lesbians, gays and bisexuals to be themselves." Safe Zones were initiated during two weeks of Pride and Awareness at UMO consisting of talks, concerts, films and workshops called, "Defending our Community."

Zones will continue past their Pride weeks and works by the simple distribution of stickers and an information sheet by members of this committee. The sticker has both a pink and black triangle and says, "Safe Zone." (Pink and black triangles were worn by gays and lesbians in Nazi concentration camps.) The accompanying sheet explains the origin of the triangles and requests that everyone contribute to an open and safe climate on campus for everyone by displaying the sticker on dorm doors or, if university staff, office doors, desks or cubicles. It places emphasis on the dangers to and discrimination of gays and lesbians on campus and in the community at large, while giving everyone, both gay and straight, a chance to show support for gay, lesbian, bisexual or questioning students (and staff). It is a project that could work in a larger community.

The flyer, however, does carry a disclaimer request that if you are not supportive of gays and lesbians, to please not use the sticker. The possible misuse of the sticker is an ominous reminder that amidst a greater feeling of community support, it may only take one act of childish mischief to create fear and suspicion. Conversely, it takes everyone working together creatively and openly to create a community that can overcome bigotry. ΔΔ

TIME OUT!: Cycling

by Michael Rossetti

It's bicycle season again, which, thanks to improved body equipment for the casual cyclist, is ever extending into early spring and late fall, if not longer.

This year there are four major cycling events which area gay and lesbian cyclists may want to plan now on taking part in.

The first is an AIDS fund-raiser ride from New York to Boston in September. The route is not expressly for the expert, nor is it a race. It's expected that over 2000 cyclists will leave New York for a three day, two night, 250 mile trek up the coast to Boston. Much of the registration and preparation has already happened, so interested cyclists should make contact ASAP by calling 617/859-8282. This ride could be the most incredible experience of camaraderie and sportsmanship of a lifetime.

The second is the Boston to Provincetown bike ride sponsored by Chiltern Mountain Club. It features about 200 cyclists from across the country, mostly Massachusetts. The ride is about 130 miles and takes some riders from 6:00 AM till noon, while most arrive later in the day. It is not a race, but the finish position announcements have been known to irritate some of the more relaxed participants.

What ever your intent, the ride ends in a weekend of events which include a dinner, smaller local rides and a beach party.

The third event is just in its inception, but may actually be a series of rides along the Maine coast as a fund raiser for Maine Won't Discriminate. The intent is to reach a wide range of cyclists, including those clubs outside the gay community, to take part in a relatively easy bike ride along one of Maine's more picturesque coastal bike routes. The need now is for a few volunteers to help organize and put down the initial planning logistics. This is a chance to start a possible Maine tradition, so if interested in organizing or sharing your route or bicycling skills, you can call Alison at 207/879-1634.

The last event is Time Out's First Spring Bike ride, which will be on Sunday, April 30. It will start from downtown Ogunquit, cruise (excuse the phrase) along the shore road to York and circle back with a stop atop Mr. Agamenticus. It's not a novice ride, but a beginner can do the ride if they're willing to take a slower pace that will take most of the day. For contact, interested riders can call me at 207/871-9940.

Remember, when bicycling there are six items you shouldn't be without: a helmet, a small ID information package, a water bottle, a rain parka, a tire pump and a tire repair kit. See you on the road.

CHEW, from page 8

it could almost be a meal in itself. Somehow, even the idea of exercise feels more inviting when there isn't two feet of snow and near zero temperatures. And Grandma knew all about that renewed feeling when she threw open the windows, beat the rugs out on the clothesline and scrubbed every surface of the house during her "spring cleaning."

Spiritually, as we see the earth renew herself, we are also encouraged to

seek our own renewal, for some of us, this is marked by the observance of the Spring Solstice, Passover or Easter. These are occasions when we can, through ritual, remember the great possibilities that lie dormant within each of us, and be spurred on to bring these possibilities to life.

Emotionally, spring is a good time to "clean house" too... to let in the fresh air and sunshine of anticipation and preparation for new growth. Retreats,

journaling, long walks in the warming air... these are all means of self-renewal.

For me, this spring is especially symbolic of personal rebirth and renewal. I have recently returned from a trip to Florida to see my son for the first time in three years. And, I will celebrate Easter for the first time in ten years. I am also in the process of seeking a "new" part-time job which will enable me to be renewed both financially and

bisexual teachers (pre-k-12), administrators, guidance counselors, librarians and other educational staff. The cost of the 2-1/2 day program, including all meals and lodging, is a sliding-scale fee of \$125-250, to be determined by the participant. A limited number of scholarships will be available. A \$75 deposit is required with initial registration.

Rita Kissen, Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Portland site coordinator of the ETEP program at USM, is the local site coordinator for PE and would be happy to provide more information about the retreat, including information about how to register. You can reach Rita by leaving a message at her voice mail, 780-5376, or by writing to her at 500 Bailey Hall, USM, Gorham, ME 04038. All inquiries and registrations are completely confidential. ΔΔ

Project Empowerment comes to Maine

PORTLAND: "Project Empowerment," a weekend retreat for lesbian, gay and bisexual educators, will be held in Southern Maine June 2-4, 1995. A project of the Equity Institute of California, Project Empowerment provides an opportunity for educators to empower and support each other, and teaches leadership skills for interrupting and dismantling homophobia.

Project Empowerment workshops have been held across the country since the program began in 1986, and have trained hundreds of educators in cutting edge strategies for meeting today's most challenging diversity issues. The 2-1/2 day retreat includes workshops on legal and equity issues for sexual minority educators, exercises on developing realistic strategies to take back to schools, and suggestions for identifying and nurturing relationships with heterosexual allies.

PE is open to all lesbian, gay and

professionally. I am preparing for a move to a "new" living space. And, as always, I continue to work at the renewal of my body with healthy eating and the promise to myself that I will be more diligent with exercise.

As you read these musings, my hope is that you feel the stirrings of renewal within yourself, that you will find a way to celebrate spring so that it truly feels like a time of newness in your life. HAPPY SPRING! ΔΔ

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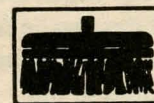
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Photos of Irish Lesbian Gay Organization (ILGO) St. Patrick's Day protest, New York City

Photos by Bruce Balboni



Maine-ly For You Womens' Camp out

On the weekends of June 15-18 and August 24-27, Maine-ly for You Women's Festivals presents Maine-ly For You Womens' Campout. The entire campground, located on a pristine lake in western Maine has been reserved for a fabulous weekend of camping, bonfires, open mics, softball, volleyball, boating, swimming, fishing

and lots more fun. A DJ will provide your favorite dance music.

Camping space and cabin space are available for rent. Campsites are \$18 - \$25 nightly. Call (207) 782-2275 before May 15th and (207) 583-6980 after that date for more details and to make reservations. Spread the word to your friends and plan on two great weekends of fun. ΔΔ

MLGPA & MWD fund raiser at Sisters



Lynn Deeves and Erica Gilbert sing to raise money for equal rights.

HEALTH, from page 8

hide behind gonorrhea. It can be undetected until a woman tries to get pregnant and can't, or until the infection progresses to where it begins to damage her reproductive system.

If a chlamydia infection is detected before it reaches a more destructive stage, it can be easily treated. Doxycillin, tetracycline and erythromycin are very effective. As with all antibiotics, they may have side effects, but the literature on women's health doesn't contain any information about herbal or

non-medical treatments for chlamydia.

Because chlamydia often has no symptoms, the only way many women realize that they have it is if a sex partner tells them they've been exposed. It can be transmitted to bisexual and heterosexual women by vaginal and anal intercourse with a man.

Chlamydia can also be transmitted from woman to woman. Next month, we'll take a look at lesbian risk for chlamydia, including prevention.

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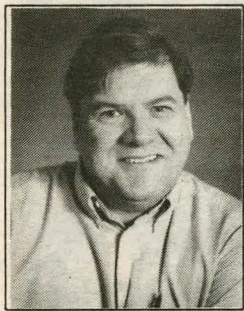
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OUT OF TOWN!



by Paul T. Bernard

I thought that this month I would gaze into my crystal ball and try to predict what travel would be like 5-10 years from

now.

Well, the first part is easy - it's already here. **Ticketless Travel** - several of the major airlines are already experimenting with Ticketless Travel. In fact, United Air Lines hopes to be the first major airline to offer Ticketless Travel worldwide by the end of 1995. What does "Ticketless Travel" mean. Well, as the name implies, you travel without a ticket. Everything else is still the same. You call your local travel agent who will then make reservations for your flights and take your check or credit card for payment. Instead of issuing you a ticket, you will be given a confirmation number. In reality, the agent will still issue a printed itinerary, on which your confirmation number will be printed. You show up at the airport and check-in at the counter as usual. But instead of handing the agent a ticket, you will give the agent your confirmation number. The agent will punch this into the computer and you will receive your boarding passes.

I also predict that in the next 5 years, we will see at least one of the major carriers go bankrupt or be bought out by a competitor. There are several airlines (Continental, TWA, USAir) having serious financial problems. As a matter of fact, there are only two carriers who are making a profit at this time, America West and Southwest Air. All of the others are losing money and have been for about 3-4 years. They all have given up on trying to increase revenues (through price hikes and increased traffic) and are now trying to control expenses.

Until the economy straightens itself out, you will also see a continuation of "fare wars" among the airlines. Generally, these are sales that are triggered by a "cash starved" airline trying to drum up business during non-peak travel periods. This is a definite plus for the consumer. However, the drawbacks are that you never know when fares will go on sale, what time period they will cover, and if you can change your travel plans to suit the dates of the sale.

Once you are on a plane, you will see many new improvements. On long distance and international flights, you will see individual TV consoles which can provide electronic games and movies - you pick the movie you want to see from a menu. You will also see more business related services - faxes, video conferencing, etc. available for the business person on the move.

I foresee the day when the airlines close up their reservation centers and everyone will buy tickets through a travel agent. (Currently, travel agents account for

85% of the air tickets sold). This may well be a plus for the consumer. Travellers are much better served by travel agents, who will give you unbiased information and the best deals possible. I get calls from people each week who tell stories of airline ticket agents who don't always give them the best deals or information.

Another prediction is a continuation of "sale prices" for cruises. This has a lot to do with that old economic theory called "supply and demand" - when supply is high and demand is low - prices are low. In the next 5 years, there are 25 new cruise ships coming into service - thus creating the supply. For instance, the Disney Company just announced plans to market cruises on 2 ships currently under construction. In addition, Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines are building new ships. This will create an over-abundance of cruise ship cabins for sale. And to fill those cabins, I foresee a continuation of last minute sales. This is good for the consumer. ΔΔ

AVENGERS, from page 23

sion, I would never have permitted Cameron to be part of the program."

Marianne Hochswinder said they (EPA) had received hundreds of phone calls from outraged psychologists who had learned of Cameron's presentation from an activist-alert which I placed on an Internet news group.

A group from the Lesbian Avengers of Boston stationed themselves in the convention center lobby, holding placards and distributing handouts which read "April Fool's day is for people like Paul Cameron. We ask that you question Paul Cameron's facts as he speaks today regarding gays and lesbians in the classroom."

Paper session chair Gene Elliot, of Rowan College of New Jersey and panel participant Carol Ann Dalto, of Merrimack College were among those who challenged Cameron to acknowledge the fact that his own data suggests heterosexual teachers are far more

likely to engage in what Cameron refers to as "fiddling" with their students than are homosexual teachers.

Cameron was met with hoots and jeers throughout his presentation, particularly when Serene Steakley, a reporter for Bay Windows inquired about the funding sources for his research. Cameron stated that AT&T along with other "long distance providers" provided funding for the Family Research Institute. The crowd also enjoyed a hypothetical question posed by an unidentified man who, using Cameron's logic, asked "If all gay and lesbian adults say that they had read the bible as children, would you conclude that reading the bible results in the recruitment of homosexuals?"

The conference was disrupted only to the extent that the crowd, straining to get into the crowded conference room, became an obstruction after the paper session ran double its allotted time. ΔΔ

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Sunday, May 7, 1995

1:00 p.m.

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A 5-mile Walk to benefit AIDS care and education in Maine.

Please ask sponsors to pre-pay. Make checks payable to Maine AIDS Walk.

[illegible]

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AMOUNT TURNED IN: \$ _____

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Register by April 28, collect at least \$50.00 and receive a free t-shirt! Please complete the information below, sign the waiver on the back, tear it off, and send it to:

The AIDS Project, 22 Monument Square - 5th Floor, Portland, ME 04101. Thank you!

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Name: _____

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T-shirt size: (please circle) Small

Medium

Large

X-Large

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CPR

MAINE AIDS WALK '95

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Maine AIDS Walk - Portland is a five mile walk coordinated by the Maine AIDS Alliance and local AIDS service organizations to benefit HIV/AIDS education and care in central and southern Maine. Proceeds from the Walk are used by local organizations for direct care, support, and education. HIV/AIDS affects all Maine citizens. It's important that we all work and walk together in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Maine.

BEFORE THE WALK

Sign up as many sponsors as you can - friends, family, co-workers. Set yourself a goal of raising at least \$100.00. (10 sponsors at \$10.00 each!) Please ask sponsors to pre-pay, and make checks payable to the Maine AIDS Walk. Avoid collecting cash.

TO THANK YOU

Each person who pre-registers by April 28 and collects at least \$50.00 will receive a free, commemorative Maine AIDS Walk t-shirt! Individuals and teams collecting the most money will be awarded prizes!

WHAT IS A WALK TEAM?

A Walk team is a great way for a group of people representing a school, church, club or business to join together and show their support by registering and walking together! Teams who pre-register by Friday, April 28 can have their team name printed on the back of their t-shirts for a nominal fee. To receive a team packet, which includes everything needed to form a team and t-shirt information, please call 774-6877.

IMPORTANT!

The Walk takes place in nine different locations around the state, including Portland. If you are unable to walk in Portland, please contact one of the Walk sites below for information regarding their Walk. You might be able to use this donation sheet regardless of where you walk, but local Walk rules and prizes do vary so please keep this in mind and call the site nearest you for more information.

Bangor/Orono -- 990-3626
Belfast -- 338-1427
Brunswick -- 725-4955
Ellsworth -- 667-3506

Hallowell/Augusta -- 626-3435
Waterville -- 873-1127
Lewiston/Auburn -- 786-4697
Rumford -- 364-2616

>>Portland Walk Information<<

5-mile Walk around Back Cove, Portland
starting at Cheverus High School, 267 Ocean Avenue
Registration from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Opening ceremonies begin at 12:30 p.m.

Walk begins at 1:00 p.m. sharp

>>RAIN OR SHINE<<

For more information, call 774-6877.

Portland Walk proceeds will benefit:

The AIDS Project
The NAMES Project/Maine

The AIDS Lodging House
Peabody House

People With AIDS Coalition of Maine
PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support)

Parking alert! Limited, free parking will be available at Cheverus High School. IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE CAR POOL WITH OTHER WALKERS!

Waiver for Maine AIDS Walk - Portland '95:

I, _____, hereby waive all claims against the Maine AIDS Alliance, its members, sponsors, volunteers and directors, for any injury I might suffer in this event. I attest that I am physically fit and prepared for this event. I also consent to permit emergency treatment in the event of injury or illness. If the participant is under 18, waiver must be signed by a parent of guardian.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

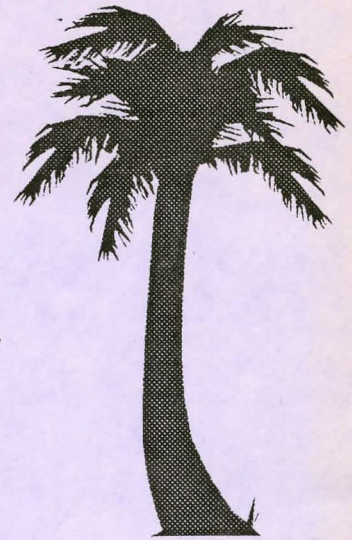


& ADVENTURE TRAVEL

885-5060

772-5699

Announce



Grand Bahama Give-Away

Win a Four-Day/Three-Night package for Two to The Club Fortuna Beach Resort on Grand Bahama Island - May 19th-22nd.

The package for two people includes Round-trip airfare from Boston, transfers to/from the airport in Freeport to the hotel, 3 nights accommodations at Club Fortuna Beach Resort, breakfast, lunch & dinner each day and unlimited non-alcoholic drinks with meals.

Contest Rules:

- On Friday and Saturday nights, each time you purchase a beverage (excluding Schnapps), you will receive an entry blank.
- Fill out the entry blank and deposit in the *Grand Bahamas Give-Away Box*.
- At 12:30 each night, 25 lucky entries will be pulled from that night's entries. These 25 entries become "qualifiers" for the *Grand Bahamas Give-Away Drawing* to be held on Saturday, May 13th.
- You may qualify only once per night, but you may qualify on each night until the drawing. **You must be present to win the Grand Bahamas Give-Away Prize Package.**